MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 APRIL 1984

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil Consultations — President Amin al-Jumayyil met with former President Sulayman Franjiyah in the first of a series of consultations concerning the formation of a government of national unity, Beirut radio reported. "Well-informed sources" cited by the radio say that the Lebanese-Syrian summit depends on the outcome of these consultations and the ongoing contacts between government and opposition leaders. However, Radio Monte Carlo, citing "an informed source" in Damascus, asserted that the Lebanese-Syrian summit had been postponed until next week at the earliest due to nonsettlement of existing differences. No date has been set for the summit, the report adds.

Meanwhile, Voice of Lebanon radio has disclosed that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will be taken to a hospital in Switzerland for treatment.

Junblatt on ADF — Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt voiced pessimism over the Lebanese war and called for the return of the Deterrent Forces to Beirut, Voice of Lebanon revealed.

Beirut Situation — The security situation in Beirut "took a bad turn," on 12 April with "violent clashes" reported in and around Beirut, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. The fighting was particularly intense in the southern suburbs, the report added, and Beirut radio reported "violent" shelling of this area. The fighting gave way to a "guarded calm" on 13 April, with heavy traffic reported between the two sectors of the city, according to Beirut radio.

Meanwhile, the commander of the French observers threatened to withdraw his men from their positions in the Al-Barbir area if normalcy is not restored there, the Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

IDF Soldiers Wounded — Four IDF soldiers were wounded by an explosive charge near the village of Dayr Qanun, east of Tyre, Jerusalem radio announced. Two other IDF soldiers were wounded in an ambush while on patrol near the village of Ad-Dayr, northwest of An-Nabatiyah, IDF Radio reported.

Syrian-Palestinian Clash — An armed clash occurred between Syrian forces and supporters of Sa'id Musa Muragha in a town in the Al-Biqa' valley, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Israel

Bus Hijacking — In an operation near the Israeli-Egyptian border, IDF forces stormed a bus hijacked by four terrorists and released the 25 passengers, Jerusalem radio announced. IDF Radio announced that all four terrorists were killed and ITIM reported that one female IDF soldier riding on the bus also died. Eight other passengers were wounded, according to a Jerusalem radio report. According to Radio Monte Carlo, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility for the operation in a statement issued in Damascus. Commenting on the operation, Defense Minister Moshe Arens contended that Israel is successfully coping with terrorist efforts, Jerusalem radio reported.

Herut Center Elections — Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir won the Herut center elections with 59 percent of the vote to 41 percent for Minister Ari'el Sharon, Jerusalem radio announced. In a speech following the vote, Sharon noted the "friendly" and "united" spirit in which the vote was held and announced his support for Shamir in the "main battle" against the Labor alignment, the radio reported. Shamir, in turn, called for unity and announced that Deputy Prime Minister David Levi would be chairman of the election campaign.

PLO Affairs

More "armed operations" will be carried out in the occupied territory against "the occupation," PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir predicted in an exclusive statement published by Jordan's *AD-DUSTUR*. In his statement, Al-Wazir also disclosed that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit Moscow "within the next few days" at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Baghdad INA says the visit will take place in late April or early May.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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PFLP Claims Responsibility for Bus Raid

JN131244 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] The PFLP issued a statement in Damascus today in which it claimed responsibility for the 12 April Rafah operation. The statement says: A group of hero fighters called the Martyr Guevarra of Gaza Group took control of a bus that was on its way from Ashqelon to Ashdod. They drove the bus toward the Palestinian-Egyptian border with the aim of exchanging the passengers for a number of strugglers who have been suffering from Zionist torture for a long time. The Zionist enemy fired at the bus, thus proving its contempt for the lives of Jews and Arabs alike. The PFLP holds the Zionist enemy's government fully responsible for what happened. We affirm that we will continue to escalate the popular, military, and political struggle against the Zionist enemy in order to obtain our right of self-determination without any capitulationist projects and deviationist polices. The PFLP affirms that it will open the way for the independent Palestinian state in cooperation with the various national Palestinian forces and factions.

For his part, the PFLP spokesman made it clear that the Palestinian commandos demanded the release of the heroes of the Jerusalem operation, Lieutenant Fu'ad and Lieutenant Carlos; the progressive Jewish struggler Udi Adiv; the Japanese international struggler (Okamoto); and 30 PFLP strugglers who are suffering from very bad health in Israeli prisons.

The PFLP statement also said that the Israeli soldiers who besieged the bus fired on it, thus forcing the commandos to return fire and inflict a number of casualties on the Israeli forces.

PFLP Official on Palestinian Unity Attempts

JN121023 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 12 Apr 84 p 22

[Text] Damascus — Exclusive to *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* — The PFLP Central Committee ended an extraordinary session last evening after discussing a political report by the PFLP Political Bureau dealingwith the latest international political developments and their impact on the Middle East. It also deals with the political developments in the Arab region, particularly the Lebanese developments, and their impact on the Palestinian problem. This was stated to *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* by Bassam Abu Sharif, PFLP Political Bureau member and official spokesman.

Abu Sharif said that the Central Committee also discussed a report on the important meetings that took place in Aden between the joint command of the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine on the one hand and the Palestinian Communist Party and the Arab Liberation Front on the other. The four factions reached an agreement on the restoration of the Palestinian unity on a national basis and away from liquidationist projects.

Abu Sharif pointed out that the Central Committee drew up a working program defining the urgent tasks that should be assumed to realize unity and to continue the armed struggle inside the occupied territories against the Zionist enemy.

On the recent rumors about differences within the Central Committee, Abu Sharif said that the committee was in harmony during the session, that it discussed various issues on the agenda in a responsible spirit, especially when analyzing the political situation and the Palestinian attitude toward current events on the Palestinian, Arab, and international levels.

On the implementation of the Aden declaration, Abu Sharif said that the joint command will begin a campaign of contacts and intensive dialogues with the various Palestinian factions, including our brothers in the Fatah Central Committee, to reunify the Palestinian position on a national basis away from projects hostile to the Palestinian people and their legitimate leader, the PLO.

Abu Sharif said: The four factions have prepared the working paper that includes the political and organizational points on whose basis discussions will be held with the Fatah Central Committee. These are the bases for the dialogue among us. We have no preconditions for dialogue. We will determinedly work in coordination with the various Palestinian resistance factions and the Lebanese nationalist forces to escalate the armed struggle and popular resistance in southern Lebanon and to increase the resistance operations against the occupation forces to exhaust their power and drive them out of Lebanon.

PFLP Spokesman States Aims of Visit to Algiers

LD121358 Algiers APS in English 1005 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Algiers 12/04/84 (APS) — Messrs Salih Rifa't, Politburo member of Palestine Liberation Democratic Front (PLDF) and Salah Sabah, Politburo member of Palestine Liberation People's Front (PLPF) arrived yesterday here.

The two Palestinian leaders are to deliver messages from Nayif Hawatimah, PLDF secretary general and from Dr George Habash, PLDF secretary general to President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, FLN Party secretary general.

In a declaration to the Algerian news agency (APS) made on behalf of the PLDF-PLPF Joint Command, Mr Rifa't Salih indicated that this visit will notably be devoted to "the preparation of a possible tripartite meeting" [word indistinct] Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee president and Messrs Habash and Hawatimah.

This tripartite meeting would be, on its turn, devoted to the preparation of the 17th session of the Palestinian National Council (PNC-Palestinian parliament)

"This meeting is necessary because we consider that the convening of the PNC before reaching an accord and a national consensus between all the organizations of the resistance may provoke a split of the PLO," Mr Rifa't Salih indicated.

The Palestinian responsible added that "a sincere effort is exerted at the present time," in cooperation with the Algerian revolution" and the Yemen Democratic Republic to "re-establish PLO unity, preserve its nationalist political line and defend its acquisitions."

On another turn, Mr Rifa't Salih indicated that [word indistinct] are taking place at the present time and have already enabled "to reach the elaboration of a text aiming at unifying the Palestinian positions around a precise vision of different questions," notably "the visit of the PLO Executive Committee president, M. Yasir 'Arafat, in Egypt, and the negative effects it had on the Palestinian national unity."

This text "has been submitted to the Fatah Central Committee through the Yemen Socialist Party," the Palestinian leader also indicated, expressing the wish that "the dialogue with the Fatah Central Committee [word indistinct] results which facilitate the holding of the Palestinian National Council."

Algiers PLO Meeting To Be Based on Aden Proposals

LD130220 Kuwait KUNA in English 1858 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, April 12 (KUNA) — A meeting grouping the Central Committee of the mainstream Palestinian Fatah movement and the joint command of the Democratic and Popular Fronts (DFLP and PFLP) will take place in Algiers next week, a spokesman for the two fronts said here Thursday night.

Confirming earlier reports, the spokesman said that the tripartite meeting between the PLO's three major constitutent organizations will be based on a working plan adopted by the PFLP and DFLP, alongside the Palestinian Communist Party and the Palestine Liberation Front in Aden last week.

This was at variance with reports from Fatah supporters of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, which said that the tripartite dialogue would take as its basis proposals submitted by the Fatah Central Committee, which is made up of 'Arafat loyalists, in Tunis last month.

The Aden proposals called for the establishment of a broad front within the PLO and a joint leadership which would abide by the resolutions of the Palestine National Council (PNC - the Palestinian parliament) which 'Arafat was accused of flouting.

They also condemned 'Arafat's controversial visit to Egypt last December, on which the Fatah Central Committee has so far refused to take a firm stand.

The joint PFLP - DFLP spokesman said that Fatah would probably be represented at the talks by Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), who is considered to be more at variance with 'Arafat's policies than the other Central Committee members.

Earlier, reports from Algiers, where a PFLP-DFLP delegation arrived to arrange from [as received] the meeting, had spoken of a summit of the three organizations group 'Arafat, the PFLP'S Dr George Habash, and Nayif Hawatimah of the Democratic Front.

But in a separate statement to KUNA, PFLP Politburo member Bassam Abu Sharif said that the meeting would take place at delegation level, without elaborating.

Abu Sharif added that the joint command of the two fronts, which was set up last year, was seeking dialogue with all Palestinian groupings to "reunite the PLO on a patriotic basis," an evident reference to 'Arafat's opponents within Fatah and other anti-'Arafat groups with whom the PLO chairman's supporters clashed last year in fighting in which the PFLP and DFLP remained neutral.

The forthcoming Algiers conference is viewed as crucial to the PLO, with the Aden group insisting that PLO unity is essential but that it can only be maintained on the basis of adherence to PNC policy.

A PNC meeting is scheduled for Algiers at an unspecified date, and its outcome is seen to depend heavily on the three major groupings' ability to agree on common ground beforehand.

Meanwhile, the PFLP Central Committee ended a round of meetings here Thursday evening with a call for increased inter-Palestinian dialogue to preserve the unity of the PLO.

A statement issued after the meeting reiterated support for the Aden proposals and the necessity of bringing all Palestinian forces into unity talks.

On Lebanon, the PFLP Central Committee said that the struggle in the country was not over, and called for more extensive liaison between the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese patriotic movement, notably in confronting the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon.

Palestinians in Egypt Choose Delegates for Algiers

NC121724 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Apr (MENA) — PNC member Sa'id Kamal said he and Zuhdi al-Qadrah, Fatah representative in Cairo, have received instructions from the PLO leadership in Tunis to start choosing 250 Palestinian personalities from among those in Egypt to participate in the popular conference the Palestinian leadership intends to hold in Algiers along with the PNC meeting expected to be held in early May.

Sa'id Kamal added that a meeting will be held in Cairo for this purpose early next week. Twelve PNC members residing in Egypt, as well as by the Palestinian popular and professional leadership, will attend to create the bases for choosing the popular delegation to represent the Palestinian communities in Egypt. The PNC member explained that during its meetings, the forthcoming popular conference will express the stances of the various Palestinian (?communities) on the legitimate Palestinian leadership represented by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. He said similar instructions were sent to the Palestinian leadership's representatives in various countries to start choosing members of the conference delegations.

PLO Groups Comment on Al-Wazir Interview

GF130716 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The official spokesman of the joint command of the PFLP,Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Palestinian Communist Party, and Palestinian Liberation Front has stated the following:

In the statements of brother Khalil al-Wazir (alias Abu Jihad), published in the Jordanian newspaper *JORDAN TIMES*, he pointed out that the Fatah Central Committee has warned the four organizations to end their membership in the PNC, in case they do not reach an agreement with the Fatah leadership within 2 weeks. He also mentioned that [words indistinct] for a comprehensive Palestinian meeting to elect new PNC members afterwards. In light of those statements the official spokesman of the four organizations said the following:

1. The indirect warnings given by Brother Abu Jihad will not stop the movement of the four sides adopted in their recent meeting in Aden and the political statement which was issued following this meeting. The four sides will continue to struggle with determination against the capitulatory method, protecting the PLO's (?unity) and its national program against any (?capitulatory) work for [words indistinct] and against any deviation from this program and the PNC resolutions.

2. The free play with the PLO's legitimate institutions in the call for holding a (?Jordanian) popular congress [words indistinct] one Palestinian (?faction) on these institutions to call them to convene [words indistinct] their old national representation of fronts [word indistinct] its policy and stand makes this part directly responsible for splitting the PLO and undermining the national unity (?in its existence).

3. The four organizations affirmed in the Aden meeting that the call for convening the PNC should be made after reaching a comprehensive national agreement because the stand of all Palestinian national forces without exception and the four organizations is based on their desire for the next PNC meeting's national unity and strength and that it not consecrate split and disintegration in the Palestinian national ranks.

4. The four organizations, despite all the provocative and capitulatory stands and statements, reiterate their adherence to the political initiative they announced during the Aden meeting on their desire to hold a comprehensive national dialogue out of the principle of adhering to the PNC resolutions and in defense of the national policy of the PLO against deviation and capitulation.

'Arafat To Visit Moscow Late Apr or Early May

JN131010 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0922 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow, 13 Apr (INA) — A Palestinian source told the INA correspondent in Moscow that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will arrive in Moscow either late this month or early next month on a visit to the Soviet Union. The source said that 'Arafat will hold talks on Palestinian developments and the situation in the Arab region.

PLO Fighters Arrive in Amman From Algiers

JN130822 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — AD-DUSTUR — Seventy Palestinian strugglers, who were freed from Ansar detention camp, arrived in Amman from Algiers after midnight last night. They were received by Najib al-Ahmad, director of the PLO Executive Committee chairman's office in Amman, and Salim Shahin, acting director of the PLO's Amman office.

AL-QABAS on Foreign Ministers Meeting Postponement

GF121417 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 11 Apr 84 p 1

['Amid ash-Shanti dispatch]

[Text] *AL-QABAS* has learned from well-informed Arab diplomatic sources that the conference of the Arab foreign ministers scheduled to be held in Tunis on 15 May will be postponed. It is noteworthy that the conference will set the date and establish the agenda for the 13th Arab summit conference in Riyadh, postponed earlier because of the current Arab situation.

These sources pointed out that the idea to postpone the Arab foreign ministers' conference for few weeks occurred during contacts among the various Arab capitals, when it was discovered that some of the ministers had appointments and other duties. Moreover, there was a desire to hold further bilateral contacts in order to ensure the attendance of all the Arab foreign ministers and thus to unify their differing views on issues such as Lebanon, the Gulf war, and Palestinian-Syrian relations.

According to the sources, another cause for this postponment was an almost unanimous conviction on the need to hold contacts with Egypt to learn its views on the latest Arab developments and the extent of commitment to the so-called Arab Charter.

The sources noted there is a proposal to dispatch an Arab delegation to Cairo with a number of questions. The Egyptian answers to these will determine whether or not there will be a unified Arab position on the return of Egypt to the Arab fold to pave the way for attaining the minimum limit of Arab-Arab relations. These sources said there is almost a unanimous Arab position approving some of the agenda articles for the next Arab summit, particularly those dealing with amending the Charter of the Arab League to make voting on major issues on a unanimous rather than on a majority basis, with voting on financial and administrative matters on a majority basis.

Arab League Official Assails Bush's Statement

JN120854 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 11 Apr 84

[Text] At the United Nations, Arab League Representative Dr Clovis Maksud lashed out at U.S. Vice President George Bush's recent remark that the United States would never condemn Israel.

[Begin video recording] [Maksud] Vice President Bush indicated that under no circumstances would the United States condemn

Israel. Now, what does this mean in the light of Vice President Bush's statements? It means the United States is giving a preliminary green light to Israel's policy and subsequent plans. It means the United States has decided to paralyze the United Nations'mechanisms pertaining to any Israeli attempt to pursue its policies of aggression, invasion, expansion, and settlements. It means the United States has indicated to Israel that it would not partake under any circumstances in an objective assessment of whatever violations Israel has committed or intends to commit in the occupied territories.

The other thing is a somewhat insulting statement that any criticism of Israel in the United Nations or anywhere else is a form of anti-Semitism. This attempt at providing Israel a sort of American immunity against any criticism, lest somebody is attacked or described as anti-Semitic, is another form of political, intellectual terrorism which Israel has succeeded in undertaking. So we are greatly disturbed by this evolution and hardening in American policy, although we have always known the degree of bias in the United States' policy is characteristic toward [sentence incomplete] [end recording].

Voice of PLO Reports S. Lebanon Operation

JN121716 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men escalated their heroic operations against the Zionist occupation forces in the various parts of occupied southern Lebanon. They inflicted heavy losses in life and equipment on the Zionist forces. A group of the resistance men, using machine guns and hand grenades, attacked a Zionist military patrol near the city of An-Nabatiyah, killing or wounding several Zionist soldiers.

The Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation and claimed only one soldier was wounded. The spokesman said his forces immediately cordoned off the area and launched a large-scale search campaign for the attackers who had returned safely to base.

KUWAIT

PRC Foreign Minister Wu Holds Press Conference

LD121726 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1232 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Kuwait, 12 Apr (KUNA) — A senior Chinese official linked the wavering of the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations to the Soviet military buildup and the stationing of SS-20 missiles in the Far East. He called on the United States to ratify the Sino-U.S. declaration recognizing the PRC as the sole representative and legitimate government of China, including Taiwan.

The state councilior and foreign minister of the PRC, Wu Xueqian, said in his press conference here this morning that his first visit to Kuwait has been successful despite its brevity. He added that he met his highness the amir of Kuwait and his highness the heir apparent and prime minister, and held talks with 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, minister of state for cabinet affairs and acting foreign minister, that dealt with means of achieving more cooperation and developing bilateral relations between the two friendly countries, in addition to talks on international issues of mutual concern. He said that the talks were held in an atmosphere of openness and amity: We were in agreement regarding many issues and our views were close regarding some of the issues discussed.

Wu pointed out that China and Kuwait are both developing countries and that China will make efforts for achieving a developed national economy and raising the Chinese peoples' standard of living. Wu praised the development of Chinese-Kuwaiti relations since diplomatic relations were established between the two countries in 1971. He said that they have witnessed a successful and effective development in various fields. He pointed out that China is making every effort to realize the modernization of the Chinese state by implementing the open-door policy on the basis of adhering to the principle of self-reliance. He said that China wishes to develop its relations with all countries, especially countries of the Third World.

Replying to a question on China's position regarding not supplying Arab countries with arms and comparing this with the large quantities of arms supplied to Arab countries by Washington and Moscow, the Chinese minister said that the presence of large quantities of Soviet and U.S. arms in the Arab region is not a new issue, and the Middle East problem that emerged after World War II has been insoluble because of the presence of these arms. He added that China has always called for resolving the Middle East problem away from the interference by the two superpowers and that Arab peoples should carry out consultations and negotiations among themselves in order to resolve their problems. He stressed that the resolutions taken by Arab leaders at the Fes summit are the basis of resolving the Middle East problem.

Wu denied that his country has supplied Iran with arms; replying to a question regarding reports on this in U.S. papers, he said: These papers bear no relation to the truth; China's position regarding the Iraq-Iran war is neutral. He said: I have expressed my hope and wish that the ending of this war between the two Muslim neighbors will be achieved as soon as possible: China is making every possible effort to achieve an end to the war that has been raging for 4 years between Iraq and Iran.

Replying to a question on Sino-U.S. relations and whether they will develop into an alliance against the USSR, Wu said that "Sino-U.S. relations have seen some improvement recently, but this does not mean that there are no longer any conflicts or problems between us. There is still the problem of Taiwan."

He added: We hope the U.S. Government will honor what was written in the statement on the establishment of relations between China and the United States — the recognition of the PRC as the sole representative and legitimate Government of China, including Taiwan. Once this is done, relations will witness constant progress.

He pointed out that China sincerely desires to improve its relations with the USSR. He pointed out that the key to this lies in the adoption by Moscow of effective measures to eliminate the numerous obstacles that stand in the way of normalizing Chinese-Soviet relations. He added that the PRC pursues an independent foreign policy and makes its conclusions and judgments independently regarding its relations and stands toward specific countries and problems connected with them. He denied that there is any anti-Soviet alliance, or an alliance against any other country. However, he pointed out that relations with Moscow have witnessed a relative improvement in the economic, commercial, and technological fields.

Replying to a question concerning the obstacles that prevent normalization of Sino-Soviet relations, the Chinese minister said that some of them are the large-scale Soviet military buildup, Moscow's stationing of SS-20 missiles along the Sino-Soviet borders in the Far East region, and the stationing of eight Soviet military divisions inside the boundaries of the Republic of Mongolia. He added that another obstacle is the Soviet Union's dispatch of a large number of its troops to Afghanistan, which is considered a sovereign Third World country; China shares a border with Afghanistan on the western side. Another obstacle, according to him, is Moscow's support to Vietnam in its aggression against Kampuchea. The number of Vietnamese troops stationed inside Kampuchea has reached 180,000. He stressed that these obstacles constitute a real threat from the south, west, and north to the safety of China.

Regarding the development of Sino-Kuwaiti relations, the Chinese official said: We can see a welcome [word indistinct] in strengthening our relations with Kuwait, especially now that we have started following the economic open-door policy in order to modernize our country. On this basis, China began a special economic policy 2 years ago through the establishment of four economic regions on the coast to offer investment concessions to foreign subjects who participate in building these regions through their investments. He added: This policy has allowed us to expand in establishing economic regions in more than just a coastal town, so that our aim at opening up to the outside world will be achieved. Therefore, we believe that there is a strong possibility for developing Sino-Kuwaiti relations within this scope and on the principle of equality and mutual benefit.

Wu attributed the military tension on the borders between China and Vietnam to the stubbornness and "hostility" of the Vietnamese leadership toward China. He said that Vietnam has amassed huge forces on the Vietnamese borders with China and has launched several "offensive" attacks recently, thus forcing the PRC to defend itself and retaliate for the attacks.

On Palestinian-Chinese relations, he said: Prior to my visit to Kuwait, I visited Tunisia and met there with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. He added that "the PRC has always expressed support for the Palestinian people's struggle for the retrieval of their legitimate rights, including their right to set up their independent state on their land." He said that the PLO "is facing a difficult situation. Now that I have met with Yasir 'Arafat, I am confident that the PLO will succeed in safeguarding its solidarity through constructive dialogue that took place within the organization. [sentence as received] I am confident that the struggle of the Palestine people under the command of the PLO will lead to victory."

He affirmed that the PRC's policy of supporting the struggle of the Arab peoples and the Palestinian people "is a continuation of the policy of the late leader Zhou Enlai. We will continue to provide political, material, and moral support to the Palestinian people as much as our conditions permit."

He disclosed that a series of talks are taking place in complete secrecy between China and Britain over the problem of the British colony of Hong Kong. He declared that the Chinese Government will apply the principle of administrative zone to Hong Kong after its return from Britain, with all that that involves concerning policies and principles. He said that no changes can be made in the social system, the main way of life, and laws in Hong Kong. He added that since it is a historical area, "we will continue to preserve the capitalist system in it and we will maintain Hong Kong's contacts with the world as a world financer and currency center."

He added: After we take back Hong Kong, we will adopt measures to protect foreign capital and private ownership and we will permit economic exchange in it.

Some, he said, might doubt that the PRC will take these measures after it retrieves its sovereignty over Hong Kong. However, he affirmed, the PRC has not taken this official position except after deep thinking based on the realities and the way of life there. He pointed out that this policy will not change for the next 50 years.

As to those who will be responsible for administering Hong Kong's affairs, he said they will be chosen by its original inhabitants; the Chinese Government will not impose an administrator of its own.

Concluding, Wu said: I wish to reassure the Kuwaitis and other Gulf people with interests in Hong Kong that the Chinese Government will safeguard their interests; they should maintain their economic and trade contacts and relations with Hong Kong.

Amir Congratulates Chernenko on Election as President
LD121312 Kuwait KUNA in English 1003 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Kuwait, April 12 (KUNA) — H.H. the amir sent a cable of congratulation Thursday to Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko on the occasion of his election as new president of the Supreme Soviet.

The cable expressed his highness' confidence that cooperation and friendship between Kuwait and the Soviet Union is to grow in strength.

Defense Minister As-Sabah Comments on Visit to U.S.
LD121225 Kuwait KUNA in English 1004 GMT 12 Apr 84

[By Raphael Calis]

[Text] Washington, April 12 (KUNA) — Kuwait's defense minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah expressed his deep satisfaction with the talks he held during his three-day visit here and stressed that he did not come with a shopping list for arms, but rather to study first-hand the advancement of American military technology.

In a wide-ranging press conference, the defense minister also stressed that if Kuwait is attacked then it will be ready to defend its borders, but he said he did not expect this to happen, because of its good relations with both Iran and Iraq.

The Iraq-Iran war, the Lebanese question, and the Arab-Israeli conflict were among the list of issues he discussed with his American counterpart, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, Vice President George Bush, and National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, the minister explained.

Shaykh Salim leaves Thursday morning on a tour of American military installations in Colarado, Nevada, and California to study first-hand the advances made in American military equipment and technology.

"...I wanted to have an opportunity to see the advancement of American military technology and only after that I will have a shopping list. Now I don't have it," Shaykh Salim emphasized in reply to several questions on this issue. Asked what kind of weapons Kuwait might be interested in, the defense minister noted that Kuwait is a small country and does not have big borders. "Therefore, we have to look for something fast and efficient...that brings us to missiles and planes, as some of the things I will be looking at," he said.

Shaykh Salim stated that as expected, the Iran-Iraq war was one of the main issues discussed with his American counterpart. He expressed his hope that the war will come to an end soon and pledged that Kuwait will continue, as it has done in the past, to press on with its efforts to bring an end to the fighting between the two neighboring and Islamic countries.

In reply to a question about the possibility of an American role in the Gulf region, the Kuwaiti defense minister noted that the U.S. "will not come in unless it is asked to. And they have said so publicly. "We are in charge of the security of the region...the

members of the GCC are entitled to defend the area. I hope and I am sure that nobody will try to block the Straits of Hormuz to allow the big powers to come in. If that does not take place, there is no necessity for the superpowers like the U.S. to come into the area."

In answer to another question, the defense minister stressed that the Americans have not asked Kuwait to have any landing rights in Kuwait. "I made it clear to my friends at the Pentagon that the best way to defend ourselves is to get the arms we need so that we can defend ourselves without involving our friends in a situation where they might become embroiled," Shaykh Salim said emphatically.

But the defense minister also elaborated on Kuwait's policy of diversifying its sources of arms, pointing out that Kuwait has brought arms from the Soviet Union, France, and Britain in addition to the United States.

In answer to another question, he said that Kuwait might find that U.S. arms might not be suitable for its needs or they might be too sophisticated for Kuwait. He also pointed out that he did ask Weinberger what would the position of the U.S. Congress be if Kuwait decides to buy arms from the U.S. in the light of what happened recently with the Stinger missiles sale to Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

Shaykh Salim was also asked about some of the measures that the Gulf Cooperation Council has taken recently in the military sphere. He noted that military exercises were recently held in the United Arab Emirates by all the Gulf states to help develop coordination and harmony in all the military aspects.

Despite the fact that these exercises were held for the first time, "they were successful," the defense minister said. He also referred to the recent air force exercises held jointly by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. "They did very well," Shaykh Salim said. A naval exercise for the specific purpose of rescue operations will also be held soon in Bahrain, he said, that will involve ships and helicopters.

He said there is serious consideration among the GCC states to manufacture some small arms and ammunitions, but that this was still at an early stage.

In reply to another question, Shaykh Salim said the U.S.-Kuwait relationship should not be judged by military ties since there are relations and exchanges on a wide variety of issues. "Kuwaiti-American relations in the military field do not go beyond the purchase of arms and arms training...our relations in this regard are similar to those we have with the Soviet Union, France, and Britain," the minister asserted.

Shaykh Salim was asked what would happen if the Iranians were successful in their much-talked about offensive near Basra. He replied, "Let's hope this does not happen. But if that happens then the whole picture will be changing from that at present...it will then involve the whole Arab League and some other powers like the U.S." "But we will not sit idle. We will try to secure our borders... We will be there to protect them, and then on the Arab side there will be a quick move from the Arab League."

QATAR

Crown Prince Praises Accomplishments of GCC

GF121728 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Doha, April 12, (WAKH) — "The security, peace and stability of the Gulf region will not be achieved without a well-studied unified strategy based on joint action," Qatari Crown Prince and Defence Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani was quoted as saying.

In a statement to English-language Qatari daily *GULF TIMES* published today, Shaykh Hamad hailed the achievements of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the steps it had taken to ward off threats and dangers besieging the Gulf region.

He said the latest GCC military exercises, Islands Shield [as received], in the United Arab Emirates desert, was one of the most distinguished accomplishments of the Council since it was aimed at building a self-force to defend the security and stability of the region.

The Qatari heir apparent warned that the closure of the Strait of Hormuz would leave an open door before foreign interventions in the region under the pretext of free navigation and would drag the region into international rivalries.

Referring to the planned visit of Qatari ruler Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani to a number of west Asian and Far East states, the heir apparent said Shaykh Khalifah, in his capacity as chairman of the GCC current session, will explain to them the objectives of the Council.

ROK Prime Minister Welcomes Amir's Visit to Seoul

GF121745 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Doha, April 12, (WAKH) — South Korean Prime Minister Chin Ui-chong welcomed H.H. the amir of Qatar's visit to Seoul and said it would further strengthen bilateral relations. In an interview with the Qatari newspaper *AR-RAYAH* the South Korean official said that the visit is commended by the South Korean people. Views on many political issues are identical between the two countries which are also based on strong economic ties, he said.

The South Korean official added that 70 percent of Korean oil is imported from the Gulf states. He went on to say that 130,000 Koreans are working in the Gulf.

Mr Chin also spoke about a number of current Arab issues, such as the Palestinian question, Iraq-Iran war and the situation in the Korean Peninsula. He said that his country supports Palestinian people's rights and calls for Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem and an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war.

SAUDI ARABIA

YAR Foreign Minister Arrives for 2-Day Visit

LD131109 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1032 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Jidda, 13 Apr (SPA) — YAR Foreign Minister Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Abd al-Asbahi arrived at noon today in Jidda from San'a' for a 2-day visit to the Kingdom. He was welcomed on arrival by the deputy head of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, Husayn al-Marzuqi, the YAR ambassador to the Kingdom, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

PDRY

YSP Chairman Congratulates Chernenko on Election

GF121753 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Cable sent by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on his election as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium — date not given]

[Text] With great happiness we received the news of your election as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. I am delighted on behalf of the Central Committee of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and on my own behalf to convey to you warmest heartfelt congratulations and to wish you success in the duties assigned to you by the party and the people in the fraternal Soviet Union. I also wish the Soviet people progress and prosperity in developing socialism. The PDRY Government and party are satisfied with the developing relations between our countries, parties, and friendly peoples — which are based on the agreement of friendship and cooperation — and confirm to you our determination to go ahead with developing and strengthening relations in various fields on the basis of our unified principles and goals and in light of scientific socialism and proletarian internationalism.

YAR

President Salih Sends Congratulations to Chernenko

GF130544 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text of cable sent by Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium]

[Text] I take this opportunity of your election as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to send to Your Excellency on behalf of myself and on behalf of the Yemeni people our best wishes and warmest congratulations on the confidence which the Soviet people have shown in you and which demonstrates your continued and permanent success in properly performing the great duties and responsibilities assigned to you so that the friendly Soviet people will attain more important achievements and gains, and that the strong friendly relations between our countries will strengthen and develop to achieve more mutual benefits based on mutual respect.

Once again I congratulate you and wish Your Excellency continued health and happiness and the friendly Soviet people more progress and prosperity. Please accept my highest regards.

[Signed] Your friend, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the YAR, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress.

Mubarak Congratulates Chernenko on New Post
NC121735 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1720 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 12 Apr (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak sent the following cable of congratulations to Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on the occasion of his election as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

I am pleased to convey to Your Excellency sincerest congratulations on your election as president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Please accept my best wishes for your personal and for the Soviet people's success and happiness.

AL-WAFD Confiscated, Released by Cairo Court
NC122100 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2041 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 12 Apr (MENA) — An official source stated that the public prosecution is now investigating the fact that some documents kept for safekeeping were stolen from State Security Court records. The documents concern a case reserved for judgement.

The attorney general banned the publication of any information about the details of this case out of concern for the investigation being conducted by the public prosecution. Despite this decision, the newspaper *Al-WAFD* published the story in an exaggerated manner and stretched the dimensions of the incident. The matter was raised with the public prosecution, which ordered the paper confiscated. The paper then took up the matter with the South Cairo court, which ordered the confiscated newspaper issue released. Competent quarters have implemented this decision.

Abu Ghazalah Comments on Current Maneuvers
NC121541 Cairo MENA in English 1515 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Suez, 12 Apr (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister, defence and military production minister said today the current maneuvers were confined to training the Armed Forces in preparation for confronting any threat. These maneuvers are not a message directed to any side, Abu Ghazalah said.

Egypt supports the Sudan in defending its border lines against any foreign aggression, Abu Ghazalah said, adding that there are no Egyptian military in south Sudan. The Egyptian military in the Sudan are just few hundreds who operate the air defence system for safeguarding the air space of Omdurman and Khartoum. He underlined that Egypt never interferes in the internal affairs of the Sudan.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah denied the presence of any Egyptian build-ups at the western borderlines, adding that Egypt maintains forces capable of securing its border there. He also denied that these maneuvers had any significance as the Armed Forces made similar maneuvers last year.

The Armed Forces commanders will on Saturday start their assessment of the maneuvers which have achieved their objectives. The maneuvres were good chances for training during which a field army was deployed against forces of the central zone, Abu Ghazalah said, adding that the maneuvers have shown the capability of the Armed Forces to use the Western and the Eastern arms side by side with the arms manufactured by our Egyptian military factories.

He underlined that Egyptian-made arms and ammunition were used in the maneuvers.

On the development of the Eastern vehicles and tanks, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said the development of the vehicles is underway.

He pointed to the Cairo International Arms Fair due to be set up on November 10 in which the most modern Egyptian defence industries will be displayed. The fair will be joined by hundreds of the world arms firms both in the West and East. The French companies will display the most modern aircraft and tanks all over the world.

Committee for Nuclear Cooperation Formed
NC121449 Cairo MENA in English 1440 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 12 Apr (MENA) — Minister of Electricity and Energy Mahir Abaza issued a decision today on forming a committee for nuclear cooperation to be assigned with coordination between Egypt on the one hand and the countries having bilateral nuclear cooperation agreements with Egypt on peaceful use of nuclear power on the other.

The committee, under head of the Nuclear Power Stations Authority Mahmud al-Maghrabi, will discuss issues related to cooperation between Egypt and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAFA) and the other international specialized bodies with a view to realizing national plans and objectives in accordance with the contents of these agreements.

Al-Baz: New Israeli Settlements 'Regrettable'
NC121310 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Commenting on the Israeli Ministerial Committee's decision to set up five new Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the Presidential Office for Foreign Affairs, stated that this increase in Israeli settlement activities in the Arab territories constitutes a serious violation of Israel's obligations stemming from the framework of the peace [treaty] and related documents, and of the rules of international law. In addition, it is a violation of the spirit of peace and it impedes the efforts being exerted in that respect.

Dr al-Baz added that it is regrettable this should happen at a time when attention is drawn toward current efforts to establish a just and lasting peace in the area.

Armed Forces Communique No 1,433 - 12 April

JN121636 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,433 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 12 April]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With high efficiency and heroic capability our valiant Armed Forces continue their activities in the sectors of operations. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. The hero eagles of the air today carried out strong raids and successive blows against enemy units and troop concentrations in the east of Basra sector of operations, scoring direct and very effective hits, and inflicted on the enemy huge losses in life and equipment. Other formations of our fighter aircraft raided enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our forward units positions in the central sector of the battlefield, scoring effective hits. All our fighter aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our fighter aircraft carried out 211 combat missions today.

2. Our able helicopter gunships today attacked enemy positions, equipment, and military hardware in the areas opposite our forward units positions in the east of Basra and east Tigris sectors of operations, inflicting on the enemy losses in life and equipment. Known enemy losses amount to 12 troop concentrations and 2 boats carrying personnel destroyed. The knights of the helicopters returned with their helicopters safely to base, praise be to God. Our helicopter gunships carried out 29 combat missions today.

3. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite one of our forward units positions east of Basra. Our forces pounded it with all types of weapons, killing two, wounding many, and destroying two excavators.

4. New groups of Iranian soldiers, escaping the terrorism and tyranny of the suspect Khomeyniite regime, sought refuge with our units in the central sector of the battlefield. They were safely evacuated to the rear lines. In another area in the same sector, the enemy sustained five killed and many wounded.

5. A boat carrying personnel was destroyed; one observation post were destroyed; and another boat was found in the east Tigris sector of operations.

6. One observation post was destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

7. The rancorous Khomeyniite regime yesterday evening and today shelled Basra, Mandali, Zurbatiyah, and a village in the Shahrbazar district. As a result of the enemy shelling, several civilian properties and installations were damaged in Basra, Zurbatiyah, and Mandali; and two women and one citizen were wounded in the village in the Shahrbazar district.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command 12 April 1984

Minister Criticizes Western Media Reports on War

JN121154 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1118 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Apr (INA) — Minister of Culture and Information Latif Nusayyif Jasim has asserted that the Western media reports and speculations about the Iraqi-Iranian war are meant to forge certain schemes at the expense of the sovereignty and independence of the Gulf region. Commenting on reports by the American newspaper *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*, the minister told INA that such reports seem to be concocted by certain U.S. circles that are completely controlled by Zionism.

The minister said that whenever the Iranian regime suffers a failure in its war of aggression against Iraq, the Zionist circles, through some U.S. and Western establishments and media, disseminate such reports to encourage the Iranian regime to continue the war. He said that these circles are under the illusion that these reports might affect the Iraqi position and preparations to crush any Iranian aggression against its impregnable borders.

Jordan Radio Notes 'Ubaydat-Ramadan Meeting

JN121638 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat conferred in Baghdad this morning with Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraq's first deputy prime minister, and discussed with him the fields of cooperation between the two brotherly countries and the means of strengthening and promoting trade and economic exchange.

During the meeting, the two sides agreed to hold an expanded meeting in Baghdad on 20 April 1984 to discuss the details of the joint trade and economic cooperation for the next phase. The meeting was attended by the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Palestinian Fighters Scheduled for Arrival

PM111559 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Apr 84 p 3

[*ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* correspondent report: "Contingent of Palestinian Fighters Arrives in Iraq"]

[Text] Baghdad — Another contingent of Palestinian fighters is due to arrive in Iraq within the next 24 hours. The fighters had earlier left Lebanon for San'a', capital of North Yemen, following the recent bloody incidents in Tripoli.

A contingent consisting of 150 Palestinian fighters arrived in Baghdad last Saturday and immediately upon their arrival went to a special camp preparatory to arranging their affairs.

A Palestinian source in Baghdad told *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* that the reason for transferring these fighters to Baghdad is the availability of logistical resources and the Palestinian command's desire to distribute the fighters among the Arab countries on the basis of geographical considerations.

With the arrival of the Palestinian fighters in Baghdad within the next few hours, he said, the number of Palestinians who arrived in Iraq after the Tripoli incidents will reach a full brigade strength.

Planning Minister Leaves for Warsaw Visit

JN121340 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1210 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Apr (INA) — Planning Minister Samal Majid Faraj left for Warsaw today heading an Iraqi delegation on a visit of a few days to Poland. In a statement to INA, Faraj said that his visit to Poland aims at strengthening the developing relations between the two friendly countries and at holding talks with Polish officials in the fields of planning, development, and exchange of information and expertise for the benefit of the two peoples.

Embassy in Turkey Denies Chemical Warfare

TA121550 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1525 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Ankara, 12 Apr (AA) — The Iraqi Embassy in Ankara Wednesday denied allegations that Iraqi forces were using chemical weapons against Iran in the Gulf war.

An embassy spokesman claimed these allegations were spread through the cooperation of the Iranian regime and Zionists. Also accusing U.S. Central Inteligence Agency and Israel's secret service "Mosad," of being behind the campaign against Iraq. The spokesman said, "Iraq respects human rights. This propaganda about our using chemical weapons is totally untrue. These allegations are part of a Zionist plan, trying to gain new territory in the region."

"The factories where they say we make chemical weapons [words indistinct] produce fertilizers," the spokesman also said.

Tehrani Calls on Iranians To Rebel Against Rulers

JN121348 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 12 Apr (INA) — Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Tehrani has urged the Iranian people to intensify their wrath against the Khomeyniite regime and force it to agree to a cease-fire and end the war against Iraq.

Addressing the Iranian people Tehrani said: You must stage demonstrations against them; compel them to sign an agreement enabling you to return to your homes.

In the series of speeches beamed through Baghdad radio and television, Tehrani said that Iraq has no designs and that it only wants to hold negotiations to prevent Iran from interfering in its domestic affairs. He recalled Iraq's call to halt the fighting since the first week of the war and solve the dispute through peaceful means. He said: However, the Iranian rulers rejcted a cease-fire in spite of mediation by international and Islamic organizations, and insisted on antagonizing Iraq and interfering in its affairs.

Tehrani denounced the Iranian regime's insistence on shelling Iraqi cities and residential quarters with heavy artillery, and exposing the freedom of navigation in the Gulf to danger. Tehrani said that the Iranian rulers lie when they say that they had not shelled Iraqi residential areas.

Calls Rulers 'Ignorant, Selfish'

JN131028 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Tehrani, one of the leading Iranian clergymen who oppose Khomeyni and his ruling clique, has asserted that the leading authorities in Iran are ignorant, selfish, and authority-loving people.

Addressing the Iranian people, Hojjat ol-Eslam Tehrani, who left Iran for Iraq in protest against the crimes committed by the Khomeyniite regime, said: The ruling clique does not pay the same attention to the millions of Iranian people as they do to those who are close to it.

Friendship Group Celebrates USSR Treaty Anniversary

JN121805 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1720 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Apr (INA) — Muhyi ad-Din at-Ta'i, vice president of the Iraqi-USSR Friendship Association, has described the treaty of friendship and cooperation concluded between the two countries as a unique model of international relations among peoples and nations.

This came in a speech he delivered this evening at the ceremony held by the Iraqi federation of friendship societies with the peoples on the 12th anniversary of the conclusion of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the USSR in April 1982.

At-Ta'i said that this treaty has greatly bolstered relations between the two countries and has opened new areas for the development of bonds of cooperation in all spheres.

USSR Ambassador Viktor Minin stressed that the treaty expresses the determination of the peoples of the two countries, who seek to coexist under the canopy of peace and within the framework of friendship, to develop comprehensive cooperation in all fields on the basis of mutual respect and noninterference in each other's domestic affairs.

The USSR ambassador described Iran's escalation of the war and its refusal to halt the fighting with Iraq as an irrational stand, and said his country will continue to seek a political solution to this war which only serves the interests of the imperialist forces.

King Husayn, Delegation Return From Iraq

JN121230 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and his accompanying delegation have returned to the homeland. His majesty the king arrived in Aqaba this afternoon from Baghdad after a 2-day visit to Iraq. During the visit, his majesty the king and President Saddam Husayn held talks on the dangers of the continuing Iranian aggression against Iraq, current Arab issues, and the international stand on these issues.

Those who saw the king off at Saddam International Airport were: President Saddam Husayn; Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Na'im Haddad, National Assembly speaker; Ahmad Husayn, director of the presidential office; Latif Nussayif Jasim, minister of culture and information; a number of the RCC members and ministers; senior civilian and military officials; and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Armed Forces Commander Concludes Visit to UK

JN130853 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 13 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — PETRA — Staff Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, returned to Amman yesterday after an official visit to the United Kingdom, during which he met with the British secretary of state for defense and the acting chief of the Joint Staff of the British Armed Forces.

He was received on arrival by the chief of staff and a number of officers.

U.S. Financial Aid to Israel Criticized

JN130834 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 13 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Partners Against Peace," *AR-RA'Y* says: The $2 billion in aid to Israel which has recently been approved by the U.S. Sente Foreign Relations Committee is considered a new and dangerous practice. This practice asserts the conviction that the United States is not interested in regaining its failing credibility in the Middle East, and that it does not hesitate to provide the Israeli aggressors with financial aid when they are intensifying settlement in the occupied territories, continuing their terrorist plans against their people, and preparing to carry out a new criminal adventure against fraternal Iraq. Thus, the United States insists on playing the role of the partner who finances actions that honor neither itself nor any country that respects its reputation and position in the world.

AR-RA'Y continues: This financing, which has been approved as a donation, makes us recall the U.S. stand that backed down on supplying Jordan with a missile network that was to be purchased. This shows the size of the paradox in U.S. dealings with the Arabs and Israel — dealings which keep weapons away from those who need them to defend themselves, and which lavish aid and support on the aggressors who threaten others.

AR-RA'Y adds: The billions of U.S. dollars given to Israel are the strongest U.S. practice against establishing real peace in the region. In fact, these billions may escalate the dangers threatening the Middle East each day. The United States cannot ignore this fact. These practices will move the United States from a position where it loses credibility to a postiion where it is a partner in Israel's hostility to peace and in depriving the region of stability.

AR-RA'Y concludes: So that peace will not be under the power of both partners who are working against it, the Arabs must work to regain it with their own hands and with their intrinsic power. No one else will bring peace to the Arabs on a silver platter. Events have proven that the Arabs cannot receive anything more than statements and verbal initiatives from others.

Contacts Between Regime, Opposition Leaders Continue

NC130637 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Contacts continued yesterday between the regime and opposition leaders in addition to the peripheral contacts taking place among the leaderships. President al-Jumayyil yesterday requested Foreign Minister Salim to hold consultations with Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the republic; Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Islamic Council; and with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. Salim could not meet with Amal Movement leader Lawyer Nabih Birri because he was not at home, but he consulted with Birri later by telephone. No information is available about the results of these contacts.

President al-Jumayyil yesterday received a message from Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, which contained his remarks about the subjects under discussion and the present contacts.

Former Prime Minister Rashid Karami received a telephone call from Foreign Minister Salim who conveyed to him answers to questions posed by Karami. The nature of these answers is unknown.

Well-informed sources say that the Lebanese-Syrian summit depends on the outcome of the contacts in the wake of the regime's stance regarding the south and in light of the consultations President al-Jumayyil will initiate today, according to the sources, for the formation of a national unity government. He will begin these consultations with the former presidents. These consultations will conclude a series of contacts and meetings with opposition leaders, and political and spiritual leaders.

The well-informed sources say that the implementation of the disengagement of forces along the axes will begin soon and that a political solution will begin immediately after completing the implementation of the disengagement of forces plan.

Al-Jumayyil Meets Franjiyah on Unity Government

NC130833 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil today commenced consultations with former presidents regarding the formation of a national unity government. At 0830 Al-Jumayyil met with former President Sulayman Franjiyah at the residence of George Daw in Al-Batrun.

Committe To Draw Up Timetable for Disengagement

NC130711 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Muhsin Dallul, deputy leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, has returned from Damascus carrying a message from Walid Junblatt to lawyer Birri, Marwan Hamadah, and Khalid Junblatt in reply to a report they had sent him about details of the meetings held with President al-Jumayyil.

Former Minister Marwan Hamadah had contacted Walid Junblatt who left Damascus for Amman. In a statement he made, Junblatt said there is no solution, and with every delay we see ourselves driven to arms.

Within the framework of the consultations, lawyer Birri received a telephone call from Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri dealing with the local situation and the dimensions of the current consultations and means for their success.

Meanwhile, the security commands have been active to ensure the means for the implementation of the disengagement of forces agreement. It was learned that the military subcommittee would meet today to draw up a timetable preparatory to implementing the disengagement of forces plan within the next 2 days.

Security sources report that the Internal Security Forces have equipped the force that will be deployed along the contact lines between the warring parties.

32 Retired Officers Join Observers Force

NC130730 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic
0530 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Contacts and meetings are underway in an attempt to implement the disengagement of forces plan. The military subcommittee is to meet today to draw up a timetable preparatory to implementing the plan at the weekend. Sources of the Internal Security Forces say that so far the major part of the force for the disengagement of forces plan has been equipped, and that 32 retired officers have responded to the call to join the observers force; the required number is 150 officers.

Media 'Fabricating' Reports on Security Forces

NC121551 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Statement issued by the Public Relations Office of the Internal Security Forces Directorate General on 12 April]

[Text] Some private information media recently have been fabricating reports prejudicial to the reputation of the Internal Security Forces. The media claim that some of the forces' officers and men show sympathy toward some partisan quarters on the basis of the community to which they belong.

The Internal Security Forces Directorate General wants to emphasize that all its officers and men act according to the directives and orders of this Directorate General. All officers have proved so far that they act according to these orders and directives and that they abide by their contents. The relationship linking some officers with officials in the areas where the officers are deployed is part of the nature of the activities of the Internal Security Forces, which aim to serve the public interests and to apply the law.

On this occasion, the Directorate General reminds the various information media of their national responsibility, particularly under the current circumstances when the Internal Security

Forces are being requested to discharge basic duties related to the disengagement of the forces and the consolidation of the cease-fire. The Directorate General asks the information media to deal objectively with news concerning the Internal Security Forces.

Summit Postponement Linked to Al-Asad's Health

JN131144 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] The summit meeting between Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad has been postponed at least until next week. Sources said the reason for this postponement is the existence of obstacles to this meeting which have not been overcome. In a telephone contact between Damascus and Beriut, the date of the summit has not been fixed.

Other sources said the reason for this postponement is President al-Asad's illness. Damascus reports say that a special hospital in Switzerland has been reserved for treating the Syrian president.

French Observers Threaten To Leave Al-Barbir

NC121732 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] French observers in the Al-Barbir area [in Beirut] today threatened to abandon their positions if normalcy is not restored there — a matter which requires withdrawing all the gunmen from the nearby areas.

The military subcommittee has received a written complaint to this effect. The complaint was filed tonight by the commander of the French observers.

Clashes in Southern Suburb, Beirut Area

NC121815 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] According to the latest security reports tonight, clashes are taking place on the axes of the southern suburb, Kafr Shima, Ash-Shuwayfat, and Al-Hadath. This required the holding of urgent contacts to prevent the exacerbation of the situation. The quarters concerned are still dealing with the situation in order to stop the clashes and to prevent their resumption. A cease-fire was announced at 1815.

Sporadic Gunfire Interrupts 'Guarded' Calm in Beirut

NC130829 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] The Museum-Al-Barbir Road is witnessing heavy traffic in both directions between the two sectors of Beirut while a relative and guarded calm prevails along the contact lines in Beirut and its southern suburb, interrupted by sporadic explosions and bursts of machine gun fire.

Leader, Groups Comment on Return of ADF

Christian Resistance

NC121309 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Political circles have pointed out that the talk of the return of the Deterrent Forces to Beirut, though desired by Syria, clashes with Lebanese legal documents that prevent its implementation on the ground. The most important of those documents is the Lebanese working paper that was submitted to the Fes conference during the tenure of [former] President Ilyas Sarkis. That document provides for the Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon. Consequently, the political circles affirm, President al-Jumayyil refuses to be the catalyst for the return of the Deterrent Forces after President Sarkis was the catalyst for their ouster from Beirut.

The return of the Deterrent Forces collides not only with Lebanese opposition but also with a total Christian resistance to such a return and to all those who agree to it.

Asked about the Lebanese Forces' position on this matter, a Lebanese Forces source emphasized that the Lebanese Forces' attitude toward the Syrian stand is clear. The source added: Regarding what is being said about the return of the Deterent Forces, this is only a rumor and the Lebanese Forces are not concerned with replying to rumors. The source warned against the consequences of the dissemination of such rumors, which aim at forcing the Christians to emigrate, creating confusion within the Christian community in particular and Lebanese society in general, and at furthering the break up of the Lebanese Army.

Free Christian Grouping's Stand

NC121353 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The Free Christian Grouping [At-Tajammu' Al-Masihiy Al-Hurr] today held a meeting at the headquarters of the Lebanese Forces in the southern sector. Nizar Najarian, commander of the Lebanese Forces in this sector, chaired the meeting, which discussed several points.

The Free Christian Grouping is a rational and liberated grouping that extends its hand to all factions and groups for cooperation in building a better future. The grouping believes that Lebanon is the homeland of all its sons and that it is necessary to find a new Lebanese formula.

The Free Christian Grouping declares that it wants its policy on the neighboring countries to be parallel and balanced and that no occupation forces should remain in Lebanon.

The grouping announced that it opposes any idea or plan to return the so-called Arab Deterrent Forces and to give them a new role. It demanded the immediate withdrawal of these forces from Lebanon so that the Lebanese may be able to live together again.

The Free Christian Grouping is an organizational framework of the Christian presence in Iqlin al-Kharrub, the western Al-Biqa', and the south. It believes that to build the future on correct bases, there must be an understanding among all the cultural groups making up the Lebanese people. The grouping is consequently in the service of the people in the aforementioned areas.

The grouping disclosed that contacts are taking place with all concerned parties in the south and that there is an understanding on the consolidation of the foundations of security and stability in the area and on the rejection of any plan aimed at stirring up secterian strife. It considered the southern army of Lebanon as the only means for liberating the south and expelling Israel.

Junblatt Support for Return

NC121312 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] In a press statement, Walid Junblatt proposed the return of the Deterrent Forces to Beirut to put an end to the civil war. He told the ASSOCIATED PRESS: The war will continue for years, and I am not optimistic. He added: I cannot accept any solution without constitutional reforms that will give the Christians and Muslims an equal share in power. On the reported presence in Washington of a highly responsible military man to conclude a new arms deal amounting to about $800 million, Junblatt said: This is a bad sign.

About the Deterrent Forces' return to Beirut, Junblatt said: The Syrians have intervened in the past, and I believe that for the sake of Lebanon they must intervene once again. Answering a question on whether he is prepared to meet with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil when he visits Damascus, Junblatt said: I am prepared to participate in every dialogue leading to a democratic, secular, united, Arab Lebanon. However, Junblatt accused the Lebanese Army of violating the cease-fire agreements and added that for this reason the battle will continue for years and years. He added: I am not optimistic and I must be realistic and say that there is no solution.

Answering a question on whether he is prepared to join a national unity government should an agreement be reached on forming such a government during the Syrian-Lebanese summit talks, Junblatt said: Why not. However, he once again expressed doubts by adding: This is only in case the government has been successful in consolidating a real peace.

Junblatt Not Optimistic on Immediate Solution

NC130822 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] In an interview with the ASSOCIATED PRESS, Walid Junblatt, the Progressive Socialist Party leader, has confirmed that he will not accept any solution that excludes the aspired for constitutional and political reforms. He expressed skepticism at Amin al-Jumayyil's intentions and governmental maneuvers, particularly as it has been proven that a new arms deal totaling $800 million is now being concluded between Washington and B'abda.

Junblatt concluded his press interview by saying: I welcome a constructive and objective dialogue for the sake of a democratic, secular, united, Arab Lebanon. He added, however: I shall be realistic and will not be optimistic regarding an immediate solution of the Lebanese crisis.

Junblatt Opposes Partition

PM121546 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 7 Apr 84 p 12

[Interview with Druze leader Walid Junblatt by Tomas Alcoverro in Amman — no date given]

[Excerpt] "There is no way out; I can see no solution to my country's situation. The Phalangists want Lebanon's partition, as in 1975. I am opposed to this partition. I am opposed to the confessionalism that is spreading through the Arab world and that tends to cut up, to 'Balkanize' these countries." "It is true, you do not need to tell me," he interrupted me, "that I have the Ash-Shuf, but the Ash-Shuf is not a canton; the Ash-Shuf is just a territory that I control militarily.... I am an Arab nationalist. Lebanon's confessionalism is the outcome of a local and regional situation. The Arab world is in a ferment. Al-Qadhdhafi has adopted Islamic Law in a brutal manner."

Failure of Lausanne

Question: You have always said that the Lausanne conference was a failure. Who was responsible?

Answer: It was Sulayman Franjiyah, former president of the republic, who had made common cause with us, despite being a Maronite Christian, and who presided over the National Salvation Front. In the Lausanne debates not only the confessional tendency to which I referred earlier but also the problem of the differences between generations emerged clearly. There are many differences between us and him concerning the way of conceiving the new state of Lebanon. He is an octogenarian. The Christian you are personified in the "Lebanese Forces." But I doubt whether they are prepared to accept a modern, democratic, multiconfessional, Arab state...

Casualties: Christians and Muslims

Question: But confessionalism — let me tell you, Mr Junblatt — is not solely the attribute of what you call the right. It is also a constant among the Muslim groups.

Answer: It is true that Lebanon has become bogged down in confessionalism. But I wish to remind you that my party was founded by my father and by a handful of Lebanese Christians. It is true that now it is just a party of the Druze community. I do not deny it.

Question: I have lived in Lebanon for years and feel attached to it. There is something that shocks me. In your country neither the deaths nor the destruction of 10 years have served any purpose. The poor are the cannon fodder of this war. How is it possible that all this suffering is not a source of pressure on these "princes of Lebanon"?

Answer: Do not continue. It is clear that in my country there is a great gulf between the rulers and the ruled. I acknowledge it. If there was a time when the social tendency surfaced in this conflict, now it is the confessional tendency that is predominant. The underprivileged of both sides are the casualties of these catastrophes.

Question: I am returning to Beirut in a few days' time. Like any citizen who suffers the effects of the war, I wish to know your opinion about what could happen over the next few weeks.

Answer: All I believe is that a cease-fire should be established, but its maintenance depends on the other side's intentions.... Of course, as you know, in Lebanon we always resort to the "Lebanese-style solutions" of our famous compromises. Of course a cease-fire is impossible without a separation of the warring forces. Amin al-Jumayyil's army should withdraw from its position in Suq al-Gharb. I am prepared to undertake not to attack. At any event, there are "red lines" that cannot be crossed.... The only positive aspect of so much fighting and so many deaths has been that we have contained the hegemony of the Maronite party of the Phalangists of the Kata'ib in the Ash-Shuf. This war of a confessional nature has obscured the conflicts among social classes. Everything in Lebanon is now based on the bloody disputes of a confessional nature.

Question: Only 2 weeks ago we suffered in West Beirut the internal fighting between your militias and the Sunni Muslim organization of Ibrahim Qulaylat's Murabitun....

Answer: I am not the only one responsible for the chaos in West Beirut. I wished to establish order in those districts and put an end to Qulaylat's gang, which has returned to Lebanon in search of money and weapons.

But a wave of Sunni protest has arisen against me. They call me an intruder in the city. The Sunni community is afraid of losing its economic privileges, and they believe that they would live better under the Phlangist Christians' boots.... That intervention was a mistake. I will reduce my military presence in West Beirut and perhaps I will also withdraw some of my forces from the combat fronts.

Syria's Role

Question: Could you, who maintain good relations with General Hafiz al-Asad's government, tell me what interest Syria really has in Lebanon?

Answer: Above all it is a strategic interest. Lebanon is an important gateway for Syria. If it had become a U.S. or Israeli protectorate, Syria would feel threatened.

Question: How would you define, Mr Junblatt, the alliance with the Syrian regime?

Answer: As far as I am concerned, it is a very clear alliance. I am in favor of an Arab and united Lebanon, and I am opposed to any form of Western protectorate, which does not mean that I am anti-Western. President al-Asad is the only great statesman of the Arab world, and he wishes to promote his international image and put an end to the stereotype cliche that the Syrian regime is an "enfant terrible" of the West.

Question: In your opinion, in the event of a Labor Party victory in Israel, will there be a military evacuation of your country's southern regions?

Answer: There will possibly be an Israeli withdrawal, but only from population centers such as Sidon, Tyre, maybe An-Anbatiyah, where the Israeli troops are harassed by the Shi'ites every day. But I also believe that Israel will undertake the colonization of southern Lebanon, as it did previously in the case of the West Bank and Gaza.

Islamic Meeting Discusses Security Situation

NC121505 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Excerpts] An expanded Islamic-national meeting was held this afternoon at the mufti's office. The meeting was chaired by Lebanese Mufti Hasan Khalid and attended by Shaykh Muhammad Shams ad-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Council, and other military and political leaders. The meeting discussed the recent political, security, and social developments in the country, as well as the need to improve the security situation.

At the end of the meeting, Husayn al-Quwwatly, director general of the mufti's office, read the final statement:

[Begin recording] The conferees discussed the security situation in general and the consequences of the criminal sporadic shelling of West Beirut in particular. The conferees decided to call the attention of the government and the armed militias' commands to the gravity of this situation. The aggressions that these militias are conducting against West Beirut, the southern suburb, and the mountain can compromise all the effort being exerted to save Lebanon from its tribulations.

The conferees call for speeding up the implementation of the disengagement agreement. They also call for the prompt implementation of the Lausanne conference's security resolutions, particularly those that call for collecting the heavy weapons and for entrusting the Internal Security Forces with the country's security responsibilities.

Finally, the conferees discussed the current political situation. They warned against the concentration of authority in the president's hands and against reluctance to provide the conciliatory reforms required to restore a balanced and integral means of government.

Phalangists Loot 'Amshit Transmission Station

LD121454 Kuwait KUNA in English 1343 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Beirut, April 12 (KUNA) — Equipment in the transmission station of 'Amshit, the official Lebanese radio, had been dismantled and looted by elements of the rightist Phalange Party, sources here said Thursday.

Officials of the Lebanese radio told KUNA that Phalangist commander of the area to the north of Beirut, Samir 'Ja'ja', was behind that operation.

The sources quoted Lebanese Information Minister Roger Shayshani as saying that the equipment of 'Amshit station was dismantled and taken away but declined to name any perpetrators.

As a result of that theft, the transmission of the official Lebanese radio can only be monitored within the Beirut area.

On the other hand, the Phalangist-controlled channel five television station is still jamming the government television transmission on channel seven, located in West Beirut.

RFL on Alleged Syrian-Palestinian Clash

NC121517 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Reports from the Al-Biqa' say several trucks carrying arms and ammunition for the Amal Movement and the Palestinians were seen traversing the Al-Masna'-Shtawrah-Dahr al-Baydar Road. Several 122-mm guns were handed over to the Palestinians in Al-Marj and Ar-Rawdah in the central Al-Biqa'.

According to another report, an armed clash occurred last night between the Syrians and Abu Musa [Fatah dissident leader Sa'id Musa Muraghah] in (Dhiyala) township and its vicinity. The Syrians surrounded a Palestinian post known as the Al-Maliyah post. The Palestinians retaliated by surrounding the Syrian intelligence center there. The Syrian forces were then ordered to strip the Palestinians in the town of their weapons.

It has been learned that the Syrian forces are harassing Hezbollah Party members and are preventing them from exercising their military activities in order to force them to join the Amal Movement. As a result of Syrian pressures, committees were formed in northern Al-Biqa' towns to work for Syrian interests and to impose certain stands, forcibly if necessary.

Syrian Major Killed in Clash in West Beirut

NC121837 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] A clash occurred this evening in Burj al-Barajinah in West Beirut between local armed elements and others accompanying Major Abu Basim of the Syrian intelligence. He was killed in the fight. The major's remains were then transported to Syria aboard an ambulance of the Shi'ite Amal Institute. Acute tension is now prevailing in the area.

Resistance Front Issues First Press Release

NC130808 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance Front has issued the first edition of its press publication entitled *AT-TAHRIR* [*LIBERATION*]. The publication's main article answers all questions by affirming that the front is not a specific community but includes all communities and sects, and that it is not a specific party or organization but embodies every party and organization.

VOL Says Al-Asad To Be Treated in Switzerland

NC121755 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1744 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the Swiss authorities have reserved a hosptial room for President Hafiz al-Asad, as he will be taken to Switzerland for treatment.

Monte Carlo Reports Syrian-Lebanese Summit Postponed

JN121911 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] An informed source in the Syrian capital believes the Syrian-Lebanese summit has been postponed until next week at least, and that no definite date has been set for this summit. It seems that the causes are due to nonsettlement of the existing differences on several topics, including the question of the army, the disengagement among the warring forces, and the necessary measures for a cease-fire.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Reports Syrian Mobilization

PM131225 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 12 Apr 84 p 1

[Wahib Muhammad Ghurab report: "Syrian-Lebanese Summit Awaiting a 'Step'; Damascus Warns: Israeli Threats Serious; Talas Inspects Preparations on Front"]

[Excerpts] Damascus — In a statement to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, well-informed political sources have precluded the convening of the Syrian-Lebanese summit scheduled for next Saturday in view of the continuing deterioration of the security situation and the absence of clear steps to consolidate peace preparatory to a political solution.

This postponment, which has not yet been officially announced, comes in the midst of intensive Syrian preparations to confront the state of alert which Israel declared a few days ago, particularly in Al-Biqa' front. It also came following a night of heavy shelling in Beirut the day before yesterday, which ended yesterday with a cautious calm while sporadic clashes continued on the contact lines.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned from well-informed sources that the meeting between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has been postponed to a date not yet fixed. The sources said: "We do not expect the summit to be held within the next 2 weeks at least, unless President Al-Jumayyil took steps that might prompt Syria to accept convening the summit."

The sources declined to reveal the nature of the steps Syria believes will facilitate the summit, but pointed out that in no circumstances will the summit be held as long as security in Lebanon is lacking.

They rule out the possibility that Syria will resort to bringing pressure to bear on its allies, as some quarters are demanding. They said that Syria believes the Lebanese should bear the consequences of their actions, although it is prepared to help them to establish peace and to prevent the partitioning of the country.

The sources affirmed that Syria rejects the military option for imposing conditions and achieving demands in Lebanon and that it intends to direct its allies toward pursuing the policy of dialogue to achieve accord and rebuild Lebanon without imposing anything contrary to their interests and the interests of Lebanon.

The sources said that President al-Jumayyil should take the necessary steps to make the rightist groups appreciate the new situation and admit that reliance on Israel is no longer valid and that only the Lebanese option remains.

While the Lebanese situation remains the primary concern for Syria, the state of tension and the military alert on the Syrian-Israeli lines is the focus of Syrian preparation as a precaution against any possible surprises.

Highly placed Syrian sources told *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* that Syria views Israeli threats to its security seriously and has prepared itself to confront any aggression by Israel.

The sources said: Despite our belief that Israel is not in a position to fight a new war owing to the economic difficulties it is facing, we nonetheless believe that the situation in which Shamir has found himself and his desire to win public opinion support might drive him toward undertaking a new adventure against Syria.

Visitors to Damascus would clearly notice the Syrian preparations. Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas has visited the front, but it is not clear whether he went to Al-Biqa' or the Golan front.

Political sources said that Syria has declared general mobilization among its military sectors preparatory to dealing with all eventualities. It was noticed yesterday that several military planes flew over Damascus.

'Surreptitious' Moves Linked to Impending Aggression

JN121457 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Middle East is currently witnessing a flurry of moves, contacts, and consultations, whether by U.S. officials and their Western allies or by pro-U.S. Arabs. What the observer notes about these moves is the obvious timing between this surreptitious activity and the U.S. and Israeli preparations for a new act of aggression against Syria.

The United States is fully convinced that the Syrian stand can foil the process of reconciliation [musalahah] and negotiation with Israel which certain Arab sides hope to achieve. The U.S. Administration has had clear experience in this field. The stumbling of the Camp David accords, the failure of U.S. policy in

Lebanon, and the capitulatory Arab sides' fear of making any direct contact with Israel; all these stem from Syria's firm and tough stand toward U.S. diplomacy in the Arab region, as admitted by the U.S. political leaders themselves. Israel also holds the same view from its own experiences and the difficult situation it is facing in southern Lebanon.

However, it seems that the United States and Israel have agreed that the campaign of lies against Syria should be the prelude to any military action. Since Arabs everywhere see in Syria their hope and pan-Arab interests, the United States has called on its agents in the region to play their role to spare U.S. diplomacy of any problem with the Arab masses, which have become increasingly indignant at the United States and all Western and Arab states collaborating with it.

King Husayn's tour was timed with the tour of a new U.S. envoy called Richard Murphy. These tours were accompanied by the leaders of the Egyptian regime's assurances that their commitment to reconciliation with Israel is above their commitment to Arab interests. All this is taking place while Israel is massing its forces, calling up its reserve, receiving U.S. warships in its ports, and announcing through its highest official that it will not withdraw from Lebanon and will not agree to Syria's having the right to unify the Lebanese and to consolidate Lebanon's unity and independence.

All the sides involved in this suspect and surreptitious move agree on one objective; namely, the necessity to influence the Syrian stand which is committed to the Arab nation's issues of liberation and the restoration of usurped Arab rights. These conspirators do not know that they are making a useless attempt, because Syria represents a firm stand, principle, and ideology. Their previous attempts at instigation, plotting, and spreading false rumors did not stop this country from building the sound strategy that changed the balances and made the Zionist aggressors think a thousand times before embarking on any military stupidity.

We in this country do not claim anything that we cannot do. But we affirm, out of confidence in our strength and capabilities, that our people's cohesion with their Armed Forces and the sons of the Arab nation who have placed their Arab national confidence in our stand and seriousness about confrontation, remains stronger than the conspiracy and aggression. At the same time, it is our frank reply to the campaigns of instigation and defamation conducted by trained agents known for their loyalty to the enemies of the Arab nation.

If the current phase of U.S. diplomacy calls for surrounding Syria by a cordon of defeatist and capitulatory moderates in the hope of weakening Syria or confusing its march, then there is no doubt that this diplomacy is a dream, because the defeatists and capitulationists are now isolated and repudiated by their own masses. They are the ones surrounded by the pioneering pan-Arab stand represented by Syria and backed by all the masses of the Arab nation.

U.S.-Financed Actions Against Syria Discussed

JN130723 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 13 Apr 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In its daily column "Voice of *ATH-THAWRAH*," *ATH-THAWRAH* asks: How can anyone explain the U.S. 6th Fleet's moves toward the ports of occupied Palestine, except by saying that they are a military show synchronized with the Israeli threats to launch aggression against Syria? *ATH-THAWRAH* says: The U.S. statements on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's approval of $5 billion in military and economic assistance to Israel is coupled with Israel's calling up its reserves and its declaration about mobilizing its forces. This means that the U.S. Administration has pledged to cover the tremendous financial expenditure to be incurred by calling up reserves, mobilizing, and financing the hostile military actions being designed against Syria.

Syria has bravely confronted the Zionist-U.S. conspiratorial policy and brought it to an impasse. Syria will not be satisfied with making the abrogation of the 17 May agreement the last of these impasses.

In conclusion, *ATH-THAWRAH* says: The Arab masses and the world liberation forces are unified with Syria, which has enough strength because of its people's determination, its firm internal front, its valiant Armed Forces, its bold and wise leadership, and the justice of the cause which it defends. Hence, the aggressors will pay a very heavy price for their aggression.

Report on 12 Apr Ashqelon Operation

JN130617 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Citing Israeli sources, AGENCE FRANCE PRESS said an armed group last night hijacked an Israeli bus on the coastal road between Ashqelon and Tel Aviv and took some passengers hostage.

Further on Hijacking

JN131200 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Occupied Palestine — Yesterday, a group of Palestinian resistance men controlled a bus belonging to the Zionist Egged company. The group took a number of passengers hostage. Reports from occupied Palestine said the fedayeen demanded the Zionist authorities release a number of Palestinian detainees in exchange for the release of their hostages. However, at dawn today the Zionist authorities issued orders to storm the bus. This led to a fierce clash between the group and the Zionist forces that had been rushed to the scene of the operation.

A Zionist military spokesman has been cited in reports as saying that eight Zionists were injured in the clash, three of them seriously. Other reports say that there were many more Zionist casualties than this, because several ambulances and helicopters

were seen transferring the casualties to hospitals from the scene of the operation. Two of the fedayeen group were martyred. The group was able to drive the bus to a point that was very close to An-Nasayrat Palestinian Refugee Camp near Dayr al-Balah, south of Gaza.

The moment news about the operation broke out, Israeli war minister Arens and his chief of staff, Levi, rushed to the area. Arens admitted that he personally had ordered the Zionist soldiers to storm the bus. A short while ago, the enemy admitted that one of the Zionists was killed as a result of the exchange of fire with the fedayeen.

Resistance to Israel in Golan Mounts

JN121809 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The campaign against Zionist occupation of the occupied Syrian Golan Heights has been active recently. Reports from the areas of the Syrian heights say that this campaign, led by patriotic elements in all these areas, aims to strengthen the citizens' cohesion to continue to resist the occupation and expel it by all available means.

Shamir, Sharon Compete in Herut Center Election

Sharon Receives 41 Percent

TA122009 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] In the Herut Center 41 percent voted for Ari'el Sharon in the competition with Yitzhaq Shamir. The prime minister received about 59 percent of the votes. Our correspondent reports that Ari'el Sharon was helped by the fact that not all the members of the Center arrived for the voting. Altogether only 75 percent of the center members participated in the voting.

Shamir Addresses Herut Center

TA122210 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2010 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Speech by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to the Herut center convention in Tel Aviv following the voting for party chairman]

[Text] My friend chairman, Deputy Prime Minister David Levi, Minister Sharon, chairman of the secretariat Yoram Aridor, members of the center: I thank you for the trust you put in my hands tonight. This is a great responsibility that you have put on my shoulders for the second time tonight, but it is also a great privilege to serve the people and the State of Israel on behalf of the Herut movement and the Likud. I pray that your belief will give us the strength to overcome all the obstacles and to stand the tests that are to come.

Dear friends, this is the first election campaign in the Herut movement and the Likud in which we face the people without the leadership of Menahem Begin. This is what he wished, and we accepted this in sadness and pain. We send him our warm greetings, and wish him a long and healthy life. We will tell him that our confidence in victory stems from the knowledge that his teaching, ideals, and actions will show us the way. [applause]

Members of the center, there was no competition tonight as the media is fond of terming it. Tonight the Herut Party center held an election according to the rules for the head of the list of Herut in the Likud. The center has done so in a dignified way, for which I thank the members of the center. However, after completing this step, as from this minute, we must avoid any competition and fighting between ourselves, since this might divide us and harm the unification of the camp. We must avoid any intensification of debates between the components of the Likud.

Our partners from the Liberal Party have walked a long way with us, which has proven itself and brought great achievements to the people of Israel. And if there are subjects demanding clarification, we will do so with mutual respect and dignity, and with all speed, for there is no time. The time is short and there is a lot of work to do.

As of tomorrow we will all prepare for the real competition, the competition for the trust and voice of the voter. In this competition we must stand as a fortified wall, with no cracks or splits, to act together with the complete devotion and belief on which we were educated and to which we are accustomed. Tomorrow we will present to the public a reliable leadership, loyal to the people and State of Israel. [applause] It will be a leadership that is not condescending, one that avoids arrogance and boastfulness, one that does not forget for a minute that it was elected in order to serve and not to rule, a leadership that is sensitive to the voice of the average person, but also to the dictates of Jewish history, and a leadership that is willing to accept difficult decisions when the good of the country demands this. Always out of serious consideration, it will demonstrate a feeling of responsibility for the existence and future of the people of Israel, and above all, the great determination to give Eretz Yisra'el to the people of Israel forever. [applause]

I thank Arik Sharon for the beautiful and nice words that he said tonight; I hope that these words open up a new chapter in the cooperation and the unification of the camp, with all its officials and camps, out of one will and desire — to win the elections. [prolonged applause]

The election campaign begins tomorrow morning. It has been agreed that Deputy Prime Minister David Levi will be chairman of the elections campaign. [applause] And I am sure that his talents, responsibility, energy and devotion will serve him in fulfilling the heavy burden which he has taken upon himself. All thet members will give him all possible help in order to ensure the victory. I wish the deputy prime minister complete success in his mission.

Members of the center, there is symbolic significance in the fact that we are convening today, a few days before Passover, the holiday of freedom. We leave this place with the flag of freedom in our hands. We will go out on the streets of the cities and villages of Israel, and we will tell our brothers and sisters that if they seek freedom — political and social freedom — they must give their confidence and their votes to the camp of Herut and the Likud. Happy Passover to all of you and to the people of Israel. [applause]

Shamir on Herut Vote

TA122230 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2105 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political affairs correspondent Shim'on Schiffer at the Herut center convention "a few minutes ago" — recorded]

[Text] [Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, were you surprised by the results, by the fact that Ari'el Sharon received 41 percent of the votes?

[Shamir] As I said before the results were announced, I do not view this evening as an evening of competition, but rather as an evening in which the Herut center has been convened in order to elect the head of the list. And the head of the list was elected, and I believe there were no surprises. The votes that were given to the rest of the candidates, well, nobody could foresee them. I at least did not risk any guesses, and of course there is room for various interpretations. However, I would not attribute any special significance to these results. After the results have been made public the entire center has unified, forgotten all the fights,

and there was a feeling of determination in the hall to go together to the elections campaign.

[Schiffer] On this issue I want to ask you two questions. Don't you have the personal feeling that you did not receive the complete confidence of this center? What will this demand of you vis-a-vis Ari'el Sharon? Will this require you to return him to the center of the stage?

[Shamir] I have no doubts that I have received the complete confidence of the center. In the center's session about 6 months ago, in which I was elected as the candidate to the post of prime minister, I received approximately the same percentage, that is, a majority, and the majority is what counts. As for the forming of a government, when the task is laid upon me, I emphasize that I will try to form this government according to relevant, national considerations. [end recording]

Sharon Speech to Herut

TA122112 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2003 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Speech by Ari'el Sharon to the Herut center convention in Tel Aviv following the voting for party chairman]

[Text] Good evening. All of us together participated tonight in the embodiment of the democratic process. We, the Herut movement, have again proved our unity. The fact that members from all sectors of the populations, and from all parts of the country, have publicly participated, with a good, friendly, and united spirit, in the voting, proved that there was indeed room for this competition.

In the name of all of us, allow me to congratulate Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir for the fact that he was given the trust of the members. Before I continue, allow me to give another vote in favor of the candidate of the Herut movement in the Likud for the post of prime minister, Yitzhaq Shamir. [applause] From this minute I announce before all the members that the movement stands 100 percent behind Shamir in the main battle against the Alignment, for the benefit and the security of the state of Israel. [prolonged applause] I thank all the members who put their trust in me and all those who took the trouble to come in order to fulfill their obligation to the movement and to Israeli democracy. A happy Passover to all.

Results of Labor Party Center Voting Reported

TA122218 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] MK's Tamar Eshel and Yehezqel Zakay have not passed the 60 percent barrier in the Labor Party Center. All the rest passed the minimum quota. They include: Party Secretary Hayim Bar-Lev, Abba Eban, Gad Ya'aqovi, 'Uzi Bar'am, 'Adi'el Amoray, and Yosi Sarid. They will be able to run for the Knesset again. The greatest percentage of votes was gathered by Yitzhaq Rabin.

Burg, Hammer To Head Religious Party List

TA130650 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by Sara Honig]

[Text] Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Avraham Shapiro late last night brought about an agreement in the National Religious Party [NRP] whereby Interior Minister Yosef Burg and Education and Culture Minister Zvulun Hammer will head the party's list in the coming Knesset elections.

Reporting this, Israel television's midnight newscast said that former Tehiya Knesset Member Hanan Porat, a leader of the Gush Emunim segment, had not decided what to do in the wake of the above development.

But there is still "almost no hope" of unifying all splinters of the national-religious camp, according to sources in the NRP and its possible partners in Gush Emunim and MATZAD.

The chances are that this sector will have at least two separate parties in July — the old NRP and the new Orot, composed of Knesset member Hayim Druckman's MATZAD and Gush Emunim.

The pessimistic outlook was heightened by a conference late yesterday between Druckman and Porat on one side and Rabbi Shapiro on the other side. Shapiro's proposals were reportedly totally unacceptable to Porat and Druckman.

Reportage on Bus Hijacking Near Gaza Strip

JN131024 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] At around 0500 this morning, an IDF unit stormed a bus that a terrorist group seized last night, released the passengers, and overpowered the four terrorists who were in the bus. Eight passengers were injured.

The IDF spokesman reports that four terrorists got on an Egged bus at the Central Bus Station in Tel Aviv at 1900 yesterday. The bus was going to Ashqelon in the south. On the way to Ashqelon, the terrorists opened an attache case they were carrying and took out a hand grenade. They told the passengers that they belong to the organizations [as heard], and that the attache case they were carrying was charged with explosives. They instructed the bus driver to continue driving toward the Gaza Strip. The terrorists searched all 35 passengers for any weapons they might have had.

The terrorists then split the passengers into two groups — one in the front of the bus, and the other in the rear. Our correspondent says that the terrorists stopped the bus and released a pregnant woman on her request. They then continued toward the Gaza Strip. The security forces rushed to the area and put up roadblocks. The terrorists forced the bus driver to break through two roadblocks. The bus stopped near a roadblock 10-km south of the city of Gaza after the soldiers manning the roadblock shot the

bus tires. Some passengers were able to jump off the bus and escape from the terrorists.

After the bus was stopped, the security forces contacted the terrorists and tried to convince them to surrender and to release the hostages. Defense Minister Moshe Arens and Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi participated in these contacts, which took many hours. When it became apparent that the terrorists did not intend to release the hostages or lay down their arms, an IDF unit stormed the bus, overpowered the four terrorists, and freed the hostages. The attache case which the terrorists were carrying contained two boobytrapped devices for RPG's. They were defused.

The terrorist PFLP organization led by George Habash announced its responsibility for hijacking the bus. In Damascus, a spokesman for this terrorist organization has said that the objective of the operation was to capture a number of the Israelis who were on the bus.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens said that he participated in making the decision to storm the bus and overpower the terrorists. He said: Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi personally supervised the activities. The defense minister added that the IDF unit was able to control the bus before the terrorists were able to explode it and its passengers, as they threatened to do when they hijacked the bus.

The defense minister said: Israel will not bargain with the terrorists. They are trying to prove their existence. We are facing these attempts successfully. The defense minister said that the terrorists who controlled the bus demanded that Israel release 500 security prisoners and move them to Egypt.

The prime minister received detailed reports throughout the night on the attempts being made to convince the terrorists to lay down their arms, and on the decision made to storm the bus.

In an interview broadcast short time ago from Israeli radio's Hebrew service, the prime minister expressed his satisfaction that this operation ended with the security forces overpowering the terrorists and rescuing the passengers of the bus.

Shamir said that the terrorists have escalated their terrorist activities — something similar to the situation in the 1970's — after being expelled form their main terrorist arena in Lebanon.

The prime minister asserted that the security forces are aware of this danger, and that they proved once again last night that the terrorists do not have any hope of imposing their will on us, murdering Israeli women and men, and fleeing unpunished. The prime minister added that the security forces are doing everything possible to prevent and foil such attempts.

The prime minister added: Indeed, we are able to abort many terrorist operations they intend to carry out. They may succeed in carrying out an operation, but even then — as was proven last night — such operations will be doomed to failure.

Details of Incident

TA130451 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0422 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Report by Alon Diskin]

[Text] This is how the bus hijacking incident developed, as the picture emerged last evening and through the night in the newsroom: At around 1900 last night, four terrorists took over an Egged bus travelling route 300 from Tel Aviv to Ashqelon. The four Arabs got on the bus in Tel Aviv. They were carrying an attache case containing war materiel as well as another white bag. At that point, there were about 40 passengers aboard the bus.

According to information in our possession, 15 passengers got off at the Ashdod intersection station. A short time later, the terrorists — two of them sitting in the rear and another two sitting at the front of the bus — began their operation. The terrorists apparently seized the gun of one of the soldiers aboard the bus. They also had grenades, Molotov cocktails, and smoke grenades — hidden in the attache case and in the coat of one of the hijackers — which were later used. The bus continued on its way toward the Gaza Strip at high speed. During this stretch, one of the passengers — Esther Ben-Hur, aged 24, who is pregnant — started to scream and was let off the bus. This is the passenger who was the first to confirm the report of the bus hijacking and report to the security forces and the police.

A short time before the beginning of the hijacking, a youth — Nisim Kohen — got off the bus. The youth was suspicious of the four from the beginning of the trip and when his suspicions mounted, he told the driver that he was going to be sick. He got off the bus and warned the driver, and proceeded to summon police and security forces. The latter began a pursuit near Ashqelon. On its way, the bus broke through several IDF roadblocks, including the barrier at Kibbutz Erez. At one point, police reached the bus. Soldiers driving a command car fired shots at the tires of the bus, which was driving very fast.

Finally, near Dayr al-Balah, in the southern part of the Gaza Strip, the bus turned over on its side. As the bus stopped, some passengers — apparently eight of them — succeeded in jumping through the windows and escaping. Among those who managed to escape was the driver.

At the time the bus was raided, there were about 20 to 30 people aboard. Some of them were apparently wounded. Large numbers of IDF, police, and security forces immediately surrounded the bus and the entire area was closed to traffic. The scene of the incident was illuminted with spotlights and flares.

Through the night, negotiations were conducted on the spot for the release of the hostages. Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi personally supervised the developments at all times. Defense Minister Moshe Arens also went to the scene. Twenty ambulances were put on the alert and two first aid stations were established. Improvised landing pads for helicopters were also prepared to evacuate the wounded people.

All Four Terrorists Killed

TA130952 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0949 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Our correspondent points out that all four terrorists who took part in the attack on the bus were killed.

IDF Soldier Killed

TA130946 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0940 GMT 13 Apr 84

["IDF Spokesman's Announcement — 13 April 1984" — ITIM headline]

[Text] [No place-name as received] The IDF spokesman announces that a female IDF soldier who had been riding in the bus was killed in the attack last night. The family of the soldier has been notified. As it will be recalled, another seven passengers were wounded in the attack.

Terrorists Members of Fatah

TA131146 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1140 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Our Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a is in our Tel Aviv studio with news about the hijacked bus. It has emerged that the terrorists who hijacked the bus were members of Yasir 'Arafat's Fatah organization rather than members of George Habash's PFLP.

Shamir Reacts to Incident

TA130541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0503 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by program moderator Yitzhaq Ro'e and political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer] [Text] [Ro'e] Mr Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, shalom to you.

[Shamir] Shalom, good morning to you.

[Ro'e] This early in the morning, we are asking for your reaction.

[Shamir] Well, first of all I am satisfied that this affair ended with the security forces overpowering the terrorists and rescuing all the passengers on the bus. It is clear that the terrorists have recently stepped up their activities — something akin to the proportions of the 1970's — after they were expelled from their main terrorist arena in Lebanon. The security forces are aware of this danger and once again they proved last night that the terrorists do not have any chance or hope of imposing their will on us, murdering Israeli men and women, and fleeing unpunished. The security forces are doing everything possible to prevent and foil their activities. Indeed, we have succeeded in foiling many operations they have conspired to carry out. They did nevertheless succeed in carrying out an operation; but, even then, as was proven last night, they were doomed to failure.

[Ro'e] Sir, notwithstanding our reluctance to provide a mouthpiece for Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], we noted his statement this morning saying that the occupied land is the center of the PLO's struggle and military operations against targets in Israel should be expected in the next few days. Would it be fitting for us to react to this statement? How are we prepared in the face of these words?

[Shamir] We know that this is the policy of the terrorist organizations. We are prepared; we will foil and are foiling all their attempts. If they carry out any operation, we will crush it as quickly as possible and we will do everything possible to make the terrorist organizations feel our strength, even before they manage to organize a terrorist operation to hurt Israeli citizens.

[Ro'e] In the studio is our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, during the night you received accurate reports about what was going on there with the terrorists. What were the decisions called for? What were the terrorists' demands?

[Shamir] Well, I received reports throughout the night. The instructions and actions called for were clear. As is the case with such incidents, we annihilate the terrorists whenever this is possible and we do not enter into any negotiations whatsoever with them. I kept in contact with the defense minister, and it was clear that it would end as it did.

I wish a speedy recovery to all the wounded and I express my appreciation to the security forces and the IDF for overpowering the terrorists so quickly and for preventing them from carrying out their plot and killing many Israeli men and women. I am sure that the terrorists will also fail in the future as they have failed in the past.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, perhaps to conclude this interview the question that probably many people are asking this morning is called for: What will happen now? Are we witnessing here terrorism, with which it will be difficult to live in this country, and all this in the face of all those statements that the land would be peaceful for 40 years? What will happen now, Mr Prime Minister?

[Shamir] We need not be afraid of such attempted attacks. We have experienced those in the past. We are witnessing here an attempt on the part of the terrorists to return to their activities of the 1970's — unsuccessfully, too — and this did not bring them closer, not even by 1 mm, to their goal.

Now, too, they may attempt several attacks but all their attempts will fail; they will not succeed in upsetting our life in Israel. We must be prepared to stop any such attempt. The State of Israel is and will be doing everything possible to prevent such acts of terrorism.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, we thank you very much for making these remarks on our morning newsreel.

Arens on Rescue Operation

TA130605 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0508 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens and Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi supervised the operation to rescue the hostages on the hijacked bus throughout the night. After the successful conclusion of the operation early this morning, the defense minister told correspondents: In the future as well we will not negotiate with terrorists who carry out an attack for the purpose of bargaining.

[Begin recording] [Arens] We have eliminated the rationale for carrying out an attack for the purpose of bargaining. The terrorists seized the bus and demanded the release of 500 prisoners who were to be allowed to go to Egypt. The four terrorists who took over the bus had a bomb which they threatened to detonate. We managed to take over the bus before they detonated it. However, to our regret, six people were wounded.

[Television correspondent Menashe Raz] I understand that we take pains to uphold the principle to not negotiate with terrorists, at least not to begin bargaining with them.

[Arens] That is correct. This has always been our policy and this will remain our policy. No doubt the terrorist organizations are trying to prove that they are still alive and kicking and that they are capable of attacking us. We must cope with this threat. We are the most experienced nation in fighting terrorism, to our regret. We have very good people, as was reflected here last night. We will fight and we will also beat them. I am not sure that there are many countries that would have been able to control such a situation, as was the case here tonight, by means of the IDF. We know that to break into and raid a bus is not [as heard] one of the most difficult things. This is what happened in this case and I hope that similar incidents do not recur.

[Voice of Israel military correspondent Shmu'el Tal] Mr Arens, you followed this operation throughout the night. How do you characterize this operation and assess it early this morning?

[Arens] There is nothing new about its characteristics. We are experienced in fighting terrorism, to our regret.

[Tal] Could you describe for us the decision-making process? How were the decisions made from the moment this incident was reported until the successful raid?

[Arens] The man who commanded the activities here during the night was the chief of staff. I was also present and party to the deliberations.

[Tal] The terrorists demanded that terrorists be brought, released, and allowed to leave Israel. Is this a demand that Israel will never accept?

[Arens] That is a fact. You can see that we did not accept it; we have not accepted it in the past, we did not accept it tonight, and we will also not accept it in the future.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Minister, do you know whether the terrorist squad was carrying out a mission on behalf of a certain terrorist organization or was it an independent operation?

[Arens] It was apparently carrying out a mission on behalf of a terrorist organization. [end recording]

Moshe Levi on Negotiations

TA130700 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0620 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi supervised the activities of the bus attack on the spot and he commented on the negotiations conducted with the terrorists:

[Begin recording] Negotiations with terrorists is not a military decision. In principle, we have conducted negotiations with terrorists in the past. However, I believe that the circumstances in this case justified our move.

Judging by the characteristics of this attack and according to an initial analysis, these people organized here, got hold of the means, and decided to act — I have always argued that decisions of this kind, or the wish to attack us through various methods, are entertained by many people, and are not the result of slackening on our part. In my opinion, exactly the opposite applies in this case. When the report came in, a series of roadblocks were set up which — in accordance with standing procedures and previous training — forced the bus to come to a halt. Once the bus stopped, it was surrounded. When we were ready to carry out the operation, we proceeded with it. Therefore, I do not see any slackening in the performance process. Every now and then we witness the fact that attacks may be carried out. To my regret, I cannot say for certain that such attacks will not recur, either along the borders or within Israel's boundaries. [end recording]

Rabin on Incident's Implications

TA130647 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0625 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Yitzhaq Rabin has reacted to the bus attack by saying that this attack once again shatters the illusions that PLO terrorism could be eliminated by means of a war.

[Begin recording] First of all, we are witnessing criminal terrorism that does not discriminate in favor of women and children. Its wish is to carry out attacks, either for bargaining purposes or just to kill. The PLO terrorist organizations are still alive and kicking. Second, I want to note my appreciation for the ingeniousness and courage of the security forces which foiled this attempt even at the cost of casualties.

Third, I want to point out that we would be well advised to rid ourselves of the illusions harbored by some Israeli policymakers regarding the war in Lebanon, when they assumed that the PLO and other forms of terrorism could be eradicated once and for all. [end recording]

Arens: IDF Attempting To Pull Out of Lebanon
TA121820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said that we are making attempts to pull the IDF out of Lebanon, but we lack breathing space to do this. In his view, if Israel withdraws unilaterally, Katyushas will fall on Galilee the next day.

A Defense Ministry spokesman has reported that Minister Arens said this to a group of officers and men who have just completed reserve duties in Lebanon and who wanted to express their support for the government's policy and its attempts to bring security to Galilee.

El Salvador Moves Embassy to Jerusalem
TA131207 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] El Salvador this morning became the second country in Central America to transfer its embassy back to Jerusalem. Reporter Harley Braidman asked the ambassador, Napoleon Armando Guerra, why his country has decided to move its embassy back to Israel's capital.

[Begin recording] [Guerra] It was a decision made in the frame of the traditional friendship that we have with Israel; and we are very pragmatic when we are talking about international relations; and we think that if the Government of Israel is working here, in Jerusalem, we have to maintain a close contact with them; and that is the reason, beside the fact that we share with Israel all the values, mainly the human values, that distinguish Israel very well in the society of the free world.

[Braidman] What kind of work is Israel doing in your country at the present time?

[Guerra] We have all the time a representation of Israel, mainly in the field of agricultural cooperation, organization of communities.

[Braidman] I asked Isra'el Gur-Arye, the deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry in charge of relations with Latin America, how he assesses the situation.

[Gur-Arye] Jerusalem is the capital of Israel, and up to now, for more than 2 years, we had only one embassy in Jerusalem, the embassy of Costa Rica. Now we are very happy to have another one, and we are hopeful that some others will follow the steps of those two embassies, and reestablish their embassies in Jerusalem, as it was before 1981, when we had 14 embassies here in the capital of Israel.

It is no secret, there are pressures, different kinds of pressures, and it takes courage, good friendship, sincere and profound friendship to Israel, to come and reestablish the embassy in Jerusalem. [end recording]

Thatcher Accepts Invitation To Visit; No Date Set
TA130648 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Apr 84 p 2

["Exclusive" report from London by Sha'ul Tzidqa]

[Text] British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is to visit Israel after the Israeli elections, but not this coming summer.

Thatcher expressed her agreement yesterday to visit Israel, as she informed President Herzog. In a letter of reply she sent to MP Steven Terlezki, Thatcher wrote: "I am most grateful for the invitation and I will go to Israel soon."

Tziyon Masuri Appointed IDF Chief Ordnance Officer
TA130651 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] Tat-Aluf (Brigadier-General) Tziyon Masuri has been appointed chief ordnance officer of the Israel Defence Forces, replacing Tat-Aluf Rami Dotan, who has retired after 31 years' active service.

Yisra'el Qeysar Nominated To Head Histadrut
TA130653 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Apr 84 p 3

[Report by Roy Isacowitz]

[Excerpt] Histadrut Trade Union Department chairman Yisra'el Qeysar was yesterday nominated as the Labour Party's candidate to succeed retiring Histadrut Secretary-General Yeruham Meshel. The vote in the party's central committee was unanimous.

The new secretary-general will be chosen on May 15 by the Histadrut Executive, in which Labour has an absolute majority. Qeysar's nomination was proposed by the Labour Party political bureau and the party's Histadrut faction.

Government Will Not Oppose UNIFIL Sidon Deployment
TA130911 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 13 Apr 84 p 11

[Report by Yosef Walter]

[Text] Israel will not oppose the proposal to deploy UNIFIL forces in Sidon when the IDF redeploys in Lebanon.

Yesterday political-security sources told *MA'ARIV* that this issue had been raised during the visit to Israel some weeks ago by UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart. The visitor proposed deploying UNIFIL forces in Sidon, and possibly also units of the Lebanese Army, as one of the possibilities for security arrangements when the IDF redeploys in Lebanon. The sources confirmed that this was one of the possibilities on the agenda and that if any such official proposal is made, Israel would not oppose it.

Among these sources the prevailing view is that the government will make a decision on the new deployment even before the date of the Knesset election.

IDF Soldiers Attacked in Southern Lebanon

Four Wounded Near Tyre

TA121712 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Four IDF soldiers were wounded this afternoon near the village of Dayr Qanun east of Tyre when an explosive charge which was left in a car went off. The explosive charge went off when an IDF patrol was passing by. A civilian who was in the area was killed from the blast. IDF soldiers have begun searching the area.

Two Wounded Near An-Nabatiyah

TA130901 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0855 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] The IDF spokesman announces that two IDF soldiers were wounded today when light weapons and an RPG rocket were fired from an ambush at an IDF patrol near the village of Ad-Duwayr, some 10 km northwest of An-Nabatiyah. IDF forces have begun searches.

Official Denies Intention To Cut Off Southern Lebanon

TA121818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Israel has no intention of cutting southern Lebanon off from the rest of the country, and Israel is taking steps to ensure supplies to the south. This was said today by a senior official in Jerusalem at a briefing for foreign correspondents. He said that as a result of the attack in Jerusalem about 2 weeks ago, Israel had been forced to block the road between the village of (Batril) and the hamlet of Jazzin. Israel, the Jerusalem official said, was trying to encourage a dialogue between the Druze in Lebanon and the Christian sects. The official's remarks were made in reaction to reports from Beirut that the Lebanese Government is asking for a debate in the UN Security Council about Israel's plan to sever southern Lebanon from the other parts of the country.

HA'ARETZ Reviews Attacks by Egyptian Media

TA121244 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Apr 84 p 7

[Commentary by Cairo correspondent 'Oded Zaray: "Contacts With the Zionist Enemy"]

[Text] Mustafa Kamal Murad is the only opposition leader who accompanied President as-Sadat on his visit to Jerusalem in November 1977. Murad abstained from making any declarations during that visit, and only about a month later, during the Cairo conference, he granted an interview to *HA'ARETZ*, his first to an Israeli newspaper. As the leader of the Liberal Socialist Party, Murad was one of the people most excited by the idea of peace with Israel. In those days, his statements were particularly emotional. Unlike his colleagues, the leaders of the other two opposition parties — Ibrahim Mahmud Shukri of the Socialist Labor Party and Khalid Muhyi ad-Din of the National Progressive Unionist Party — Murad did not change his tastes; he adhered to his avowed position. However, in an election rally a week ago, the same Mustafa Kamal Murad indirectly rejected the Camp David accords and joined those Arabs who call Israel the Zionist enemy.

The term "the Zionist enemy" which was used by everybody here before As-Sadat's initiative, has now regained its former position in the so-called "national" daily press that is not affiliated with the opposition parties. On the fifth anniversary of signing the peace treaty, Israel is once again the enemy of Egypt and the Arab nation, almost throughout the Egyptian media. Egyptian officials time and again will tell you that terms, views, and themes cannot be imposed on the free press, and that nobody should think, God forbid, that somebody high up orders the press to describe Israel as the enemy. After all, the journalists' association explicitly decided that there should be no contacts whatsoever with Israel or Israelis, because this would be holding contacts with the enemy. All the Egyptian journalists who accompanied official delegations to visits in Israel were publicly exonerated — as Muhammad al-Hayawan of *AL-JUMHURIYAH* recounted — because this was forced on them and they had no other choice. However, these reporters declared that they would not maintain any contact with Israel in the future, and that they would no longer accompany official delegations. According to Al-Hayawan, several correspondents produced medical certificates to avoid travelling to Israel with an official Egyptian personality. It is clear then why all the invitations Israel sent to Egyptian journalists to come visit were never accepted.

Mr and Mrs Abba Eban's visit here last week confirmed that this, or even worse, is the state of affairs. Eban was greeted in Egypt as the next Israeli foreign minister in light if the Egyptian wish to see the return of Labor Party rule. However, this wish apparently could not do away with the ban on contacts with the Zionist enemy. The day after Eban's arrival, it transpired that although a MENA correspondent was sent to the airport to greet the Israeli guest, and even to interview him, this had not been a journalistic mission but rather an attempt to make Eban feel good.

Not even one word of the interview or anything about Eban's arrival in Egypt as the guest of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry was published the next day. Nothing was published 2 days later either, but on the 3d day, when Eban was granted an audience with President Mubarak, many expected the customary report about the meeting with the president. Nothing was published this time either. MK Eban returned to Israel, but the Egyptians never learned that Eban had visited their country.

They learned about Eban's visit and his meeting with the president from the Voice of Israel's Arabic program. Unlike the situation in Israel where the Egyptian diplomatic delegation has access to the media, Ambassador Moshe Sason does not enjoy

such a privilege. Even on the fifth anniversary of the peace treaty, the ambassador could not address the Egyptian people other than through the Voice of Israel.

And this is how it was: In an interview broadcast in Israel, Sason lauded peace and noted its advantages. He said he would be very glad if the Arab ambassadors returned to Cairo. The interview was widely quoted in the [Jerusalem] Arab papers, some of which also get here, and this aroused the anger of the Egyptian ruling party organ, *MAY*. In the paper's opinion, the isolated Israeli ambassador was exploiting Arab feelings when he made this statement, and his ulterior motive actually was to prevent the return of the Arab ambassadors to Cairo. The paper suggested that the ambassadors should realize the Israeli conspiracies and understand that the return of the ambassadors would actually make Israel suffer all the symptoms of nervousness and tension.

These are some small examples of what is happening in the media here. What is worse is the upcoming onslaught on the Camp David accords by the four opposition parties and, pressed by the circumstances, possibly also by the ruling party. The first shot in this attack was fired by Khalid Muhyi ad-Din last week when he proposed cancelling all the results of the Camp David accords, closing the borders, preventing Israelis from entering Egypt, and giving the Egyptian Army full rein in the Sinai. Ad-Din was the first leader to expose his party's platform to the press. Other parties are now expected to follow suit: The Liberal Socialist Party, the Socialist Labor Party, the New Wafd Party, the National Progressive Unionist Party, and the ruling party, the National Democratic Party. The Camp David accords will apparently acquire the same relevance as urgent domestic affairs, from now until the elections on 27 May.

ALGERIA

Angola's Dos Santos Stops Over, Meets Ibrahimi

LD130245 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola made a stopover Thursday afternoon at Houari Boumedienne International Airport in Algiers. He was received by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the FLN Politburo and minister of foreign affairs, and Colonel (Ali Bouhajjah), commander of the 7th Military Region. After a short rest in the VIP hall, the Angolan president left Algeria.

Joint Communique Issued on Bouhara Visit to Togo

LD121512 Algiers APS in English 1010 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Algiers 12/04/84 (APS) — An Algero Togolese communique sanctioned the visit of M. Abderrazak Bouhara, member of the CC Permanent Secretariat, in charge of external relations, in Togo from 7 to 9 April.

During this visit, M. Bouhara met M. Yao Kunale Eklo, CC member and administrative secretary of the Togolese Peoples Assembling Party [Rally of the Togolese People]. These talks enabled the two parties to proceed to a wide exchange of views on the great problems of current events in Africa and in world, as well as on bilateral relations.

The examination of the international situation, the joint communique pointed out, "enabled to note a great convergence of views" notably as to the emergency and the necessity to work for "the total liquidation of imperialism, colonialism, the neo-colonialism apartheid and [word indistinct]" [paragraph as received].

Concerning Africa, the two sides reaffirmed their indefectible attachment to the OAU principles and objectives and notably their "attachment to their total adhesion to the 104 Resolution adopted by the 19th OAU summit in Addis Ababa" as to the situation prevailing in north-west Africa. Regarding economic problems, the two delegations reaffirmed the inalienable and indefeasible right of states on their natural resources and their exploitation in conditions aiming at really promoting the well being of their peoples. The two parties stressed their identity of views before the crisis which roughly strike the developing countries and expressed their concern before the deepening of the gap between the developed and the Third World countries.

In this regard, they exalt the intensification of South-South cooperation to face manoeuvres which attempt to hamper the setting up of a new international economic order and express the wish that "the action of the Group [of] 77 will progress in this regard".

The two sides proceeded also to the signature of a protocol of agreement for the years 1984 and 1985.

LIBYA

Saudi Prince Bandar's Remarks on Israel Repudiated

LD121933 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Washington, 12 Apr (JANA) -- Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, Saudi ambassador to Washington, stated during a reception organized in his honor by the Washington Press Club that the Arabs were ready to establish what he called "peace with Israel" on the condition that it give back the occupied Arab lands. He also said that the plan of U.S. President Reagan for the Middle East and the Fes summit resolutions were the sole peace plans.

We believe that Prince Bandar ibn Sultan is not entitled to speak for and on behalf of the Arabs now that he promises that the Arabs can recognize Israel and also decides that the Reagan and the Fes plans are the sole fundamental peace plans.

Prince Bandar can express his personal views and personal opinion, but he has no right to speak on behalf of the Arabs in a cause for which the Arab nation has offered scores of martyrs, and is still (?eager) to offer more so that Palestine may be liberated inch by inch. This nation realizes the nature of the Arab-Zionist conflict, and realizes that this conflict must be decisvely settled by one of the two sides remaining [as received].

Arab People's Congress Body Studies 'Zionist Threats'

LD130904 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, 13 April — The Delegates Council at the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress has studied the growing Zionist threats against Syria during the past few days.

At its meeting here yesterday evening, the Delegates Council warned that the Zionist enemy and his American allies, having suffered a true defeat in Lebanon, were now coordinating plans and concentrating capabilities against Syria in preparation for dealing a blow to its frontline and overturning the balances in the region for the good of imperialism and the Zionist enemy.

The Council called on the national Arab masses and forces and on the international organizations to be on the alert and to work for checking the growing Zionist threats and to bolster political and material solidarity with Syria and with the national Lebanese movement and the Palestine resistance.

The Delegates Council continued preparations for an Arab and international movement against the Zionist crime and for the assertion of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people to self-determination and the setting up of their independent state over their land.

The Council also considered the plan of movement on the Arab level with a view to contacting the various parties to the Arab liberation movement and to consult with them over the escalation of the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction in a manner which would bolster further the victory achieved by the alliance of Syria with the national Lebanese masses and forces

and the forces of the Palestine revolution in the abrogation of the capitulationist agreement.

The Delegates Council affirmed the importance of a popular Arab action through the Arab People's Congress for the sake of liberation, unity, and progress.

The Delegates Council decided to send delegations to tour the various Arab arenas.

MOROCCO

King Hassan, Belkziz Meet With Brazilian President

LD101545 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Apr 84

[Text] Political talks were held this afternoon in the Royal Palace in Fes between His Majesty King Hassan II and his great guest the Brazilian president. These political talks were attended on the Moroccan side by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed; Foreign Minister Abdelouahid Belkziz; adviser to his majesty, Ahmed Ridha Guedira; and his majesty's ambassador to Brazil, Abdellatif Khatib. On the Brazilian side they were attended by the foreign minister, the political adviser to the Foreign Ministry, and the Brazilian ambassador to Rabat.

SUDAN

Madani Assesses Situation in South, Eritrean Fronts

PM121430 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 9 Apr 84 p 10

[Report on interview with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mustafa Madani by 'Uthman Sayyid Ahmad — date, place not given]

[Excerpts] The Sudanese minister first outlined the main features of his country's foreign policy. He said that Sudan bases its foreign policy and its handling of international and regional issues on national interests, good neighborliness, and settlement of disputes and differences with neighboring countries through peaceful negotiations and by political and peaceful means without recourse to military violence or force. Sudan, he added, does not interfere in the internal affairs of any state, particularly the neighboring states, and, accordingly, does not allow any superpower or neighboring state to interfere in Sudan's internal affairs on any pretext.

Referring to southern Sudan, Madani said that the security situation there is now stable and the security forces are in control of the strategic points, especially in the areas of development projects and oil prospecting, and all the necessary security arrangements have been made to enable the oil prospecting companies to resume their work. He added: We in Sudan will never abandon our firm and principled stance on the question of good-neighborly relations with the states around us. We will continue to pursue the same policy. For example, should there be some rapprochement between Egypt and Libya, such a development would make us happy. In the right circumstances we would ourselves not hesitate to restore relations with any state, including Libya, in accordance with our national interests. The Sudanese minister also said: The common denominator between Sudan and Ethiopia had always been their interest in strengthening relations and keeping Sudan's eastern front quiet. We cannot logically claim that the presence of a Marxist regime in Ethiopia now is the main cause of the deteriorating relations between the two countries. We have always been the ones to make the first move to improve these relations, despite our full knowledge of the Ethiopian regime. Ethiopia has big internal problems, especially the Eritrean problem. It believes that Sudan can stop the bloodshed there. We say that this is difficult to achieve and that the matter is out of our hands. We emphasize that we have never started any dispute with Ethiopia.

Certainly, Sudan's views on the Eritrean question are different from Ethiopia's views. Ethiopia holds the view that Sudan can settle the issue, but we say that this would be impossible even if Sudan used its entire army and even if the Sudanese and Ethiopians reached an agreement, because it is much deeper than that. This is my own personal opinion on the matter. The Eritrean revolution is deep-rooted. It is 20 years old and Sudan is not directly connected with it, because it is a revolution inside Ethiopian territory and a war within Ethiopia itself.

Sudan has made many efforts to solve the Eritrean problem but did not succeed, because Ethiopia's approach to the matter is completely different. Sudan's part in bringing the Eritrean factions and leaderships together in one front stems from a belief which Sudan still holds, namely that Ethiopia can settle this issue in the same way Sudan settled the problem of southern Sudan — that is, by establishing a federal rule in Eritrea that is linked to the central government in Ethiopia.

Ethiopia sees Sudan's attempt to bring the Eritrean leaderships together as a move to strengthen the resistance against Ethiopia, which is exactly the opposite of what Sudan believes. Sudan believes that by bringing the leaders together one could talk to them with a clear vision and a united approach.

Doctors Said Resuming Work Throughout Country

JN131048 Khartoum SUNA in English 1044 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 13 April (SUNA) — SUDAN NEWS AGENCY (SUNA) learned that doctors started to resume work in all hospitals throughout the country since yesterday evening. The doctors were distributed to cover all shifts, and work is now regular in all sections.

Numayri Author of New Book on Mideast Security

WA121536 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic No 2912, 2 Apr 84 p 5

[Text] *ROSE AL-YUSUF* has obtained the rights to publish excerpts from the new book written by the Sudanese president, Ja'far Numayri, entitled "A Strategic View of National Security Threats in the Middle East." The book, currently being printed, will be published by the Modern Egyptian Office.

KENYA

Tipis Reads Government Statement on Tribal Clashes

EA130020 Nairobi KNA in English 1734 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Nairobi, April 12: The following is the full text of the findings and resolutions the government has taken in order to curb tribal clashes in Wajir District, Northeastern Province. The findings and resolutions were read in parliament by a minister of state in the office of the president, Mr Justice Ole Tipis.

On 27 March 1984, I informed this august house that the government had instituted investigations into the incident which occurred in Wajir District resulting in loss of life. The government has now concluded investigations and the finds are as follows:

Firstly, the honourable members will recall that after the breakdown of law and order in the province following the secession [word indistinct] in 1963, law and order was restored following the Arusha accord between Kenya and Somalia. For ten years following the Arusha accord, the province enjoyed relative peace and orderly development. Security forces in the province dealt with manageable crime levels on cattle rustling and banditry.

However, the situation dramatically changed soon after the Ogaden war between Ethiopia and Somalia. The province, especially the districts of Wajir and Mandera, witnessed increased lawlessness in the form of cattle rustling, banditry activities and ethnic rivalries which resulted into clashes. This was attributed to the fact that a lot of armed persons of Somali origin came to Kenya for refuge while escaping from the war-torn Ogaden.

During the 1979 general elections, lawlessness in the province acquired a new face. It was evident that certain politicians in the province were using these armed bandits to intimidate their rivals.

Because of sectional interest in politics, bandits belonging to one section were used to force the opposing section to leave the constituency in order to give the candidate of their section undue advantage.

In Mandera District, the Murulle section was out of the constituency during the revision of voters' registers and came back to register only after a lot of talking by leaders through a series of barazas [meetings] in the district.

In Wajir District, like Mandera, the sectional rivalry was mainly between the Degodias and Ajurans. This was particularly so in Wajir West which is the subject of this statement.

During the last two general elections, the elected member of parliament has been a Degodia. However, the Ajurans regard Wajir West as their traditional grazing area and regard Degodias as intruders. The traditional grazing area of Degodias is Wajir West.

With the above background, let me, Mr Speaker, survey the events leading to the clash between security forces and Degodias:

1. From March 1983 to November 1983, Wajir District experienced several tribal clashes, which left several people dead and a large number of livestock stolen.

2. On 10.11.83, Ajuran bandits attacked some Degodia manyattas [villages] at Chipder and Tuli Roba, west of El Das and stole 2,000 camels belonging to Degodia and killed one male adult.

3. On the following day, 11.11.83, the Degodias killed one man and five women and stole 100 head of cattle at Kil Kili near El Das. These incidents were signals of further incidents. At this juncture, Degodias vowed not to stop the attacks on the Ajurans' until their 200 [as received] camels were returned.

4. Between January 1983 and February 1984 ethnic conflict had resulted in 88 civilians killed, property estimated well over Ksh.17 million lost, 78 firearms and 1531 ammunition recovered.

With the above information in mind, the government mounted a campaign to reduce tension and to reduce the many illegal weapons in the area. The ministers of state in the office of the president addressed barazas in Wajir trying to reduce tension. The ethnic groups took traditional oath ending hostilities. But the oath did not work.

On 16.12.83, a minister of state in the office of the president visited Wajir and addressed a large public baraza. He called upon the two tribes to end hostilities and gave them ten days to surrender the illegal guns.

At the end of the ten days, the Ajurans had showed positive response to the call but the Degodias had not. Because of the poor response, the provincial commissioner of the province extended the grace period by ten more days ending 21st January 1984. At the end of grace period, Ajurans had complied with the call but the Degodias had shown little response.

During this time, the Degodias continued their threats to attack Ajruans and kill senior civil servants. The Ajurans felt threatened as they had surrendered their weapons to the government. In order to evade surrender of arms, the Degodias tried to move to Garissa and Mandera but were stopped by respective district security committees.

1. On 29.1.84, near El Das, an Ajuran woman was attacked by a group of men who beat her and raped her. She identified them as Degodias. They disappeared. A similar event occurred in the same area where an Ajuran woman was robbed of cash totalling Ksh. 2,240.

2. On 1 February 1984, at Khot Khot near Griftu, five camels were stolen and a 19-year old boy, Abdille Ali Hassan, was abducted. His whereabouts are still unknown.

3. On 3 February 1984, at Tulla Manyatta near Griftu, one fifty-year old Ajuran, Yusuf Ali Omar, was shot dead and four others injured. Six camels were stolen.

4. On 6 February 1984, same area near Griftu, three armed Degodias attacked an Ajuran manyatta, beat up occupants and stole four camels.

5. On 9 February 1984, an estimated gang of ten Degodia bandits attacked a manyatta at Yakho near Griftu killing six people — one male and five women — and injured two. They shot dead three camels and burnt down all huts in the manyatta.

Mr Speaker, Sir, all these series of incidents directed towards Ajurans and the aggressive posture of the Degodias were viewed as a serious security threat in the district. The Ajurans who had taken heed of the government's appeal to surrender weapons felt insecure in light of the Degodia's continued attack.

After the incident of 9.2.84 the Wajir District Security Committee, with the concurrence of the provincial security committee, decided to mount an operation with aim of:

1. Disarming the Degodias;

2. Get the names of the bandits responsible for the killings of 9.2.84.

The operation started on Friday 10 February 1984 at 0400 hours and covered the following areas:

El Ben, Dambas, Butehelu, El Das, Griftu, Bula Jogoo. The operation was composed of the army, police and administration police.

At Bula Jogoo the security forces surrounded the area by 0500 hours. The residents were given order to leave their huts. But they refused to do so. By 1400 hours the order had not yet been complied with and the commander gave order for the huts to be destroyed. 381 male adults Degodias were rounded up and collected and transported to Wagulla airstrip which is nine miles west of Wajir township for screening and interrogation. By 11 February most of the areas had been rounded up.

On 12.2.84, the A.D.C. [Acting District Commissioner] addressed a baraza at Wajir township and explained to the residents what was going on to avoid panic. After the baraza, the DC visited the airstrip, in the company of the OCPD [Officer Commanding Police Division] to view progress of the interrogation. When the DC was leaving, part of the crowd started shouting, moving towards him and others attempted to escape. During the stampede, confusion arose and in the melee, fire was opened and 29 people died of gun wounds or trampled upon.

During the operation, the security forces met with resistance and 28 other persons were killed. This brings the death toll to 57 persons dead.

On 13.2.84 the chairman of DSC [District Security Committee] visited Wajir and appraised the situation. They endorsed the decision and Mr Speaker, Sir, in conclusion, the findings of the committee are:

1. The general security situation in Wajir District is politicaly motivated. Leaders have involved themselves in divisive political strategies planned on ethnic considerations.

2. Because of the large number of illegal weapons and ethnic clashes, the operation was well justified. The government had to step in to restore law and order.

The government, Mr Speaker, wishes to take the following steps to restore law and order in Wajir District so that the district can concentrate in development like other parts of the country:

1. The government will selecte six elders from each section and meet at Wajir with the aim of bringing about reconciliation and stop the wanton loss of life and property. The elected leaders, MPs and county councillors will take part in this exercise.

2. Any lawlessness in the district will continue to be dealt with firmness, as armed bandits will not be handled with soft gloves, but Mr Speaker, I wish to repeat that the solution to the security of Wajir lies squarely in the hands of the leaders. Old rivalries must be changed to co-operation and understanding. I appeal to the leaders of Wajir to sow seeds of progress and not seeds of destruction.

3. The government will continue to give relief in form of medicine and food to familes in need, special care being taken to look after the aged and children. The government is grateful to many donors who have continued to give assistance in this area.

SOMALIA

15 Government Troops Said Killed in Mudugh Region

EA122123 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Units of the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front of the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces launched a fierce attack on the base of the 4th Brigade of the troops still loyal to the nation-wrecking regime led by Barre, which are stationed in (Beira) village and its outskirts, 24 km northwest of Galcaio, regional capital of Mudugh region, central Somalia.

The attack which the gallant fighters of the DFSS launched on 10 April inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy soldiers. The troops loyal to General Siad Barre's regime lost 15 soldiers killed and 31 others wounded. The enemy soldiers also lost one vehicle burned, and the rations on board the vehicle were also destroyed.

The intrepid fighters of the DFSS who launched the attack returned to their bases safely following their victory.

Government Convoy Attacked

EA122119 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Units of the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces launched a hit-and-run attack on a convoy of military vehicles belonging to the troops loyal to the Mogadishu regime passing near (Gahan Daleh) village.

The units of the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces, who launched the attack on 9 April 1984, burnt out one TM Fiat [as heard] which is sometimes use to carry troops or mounted with heavy field guns.

The vehicle number was 14578 XD. It was driven by a lance corporal whose number was 52284 and who died on the spot.

The gallant fighters of the 9th General Aynanshe Division who launched the attack returned to their base safely.

UGANDA

President Obote Cables Nyerere on Sokoine's Death

EA121834 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Excerpts] President Milton Obote has sent a message of condolence to Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, president of the United Republic of Tanzania, on the sudden death of Prime Minister Ndugu Edward Sokoine. The president has also ordered that starting from tomorrow, the Uganda flag will fly at half mast until the burial.

The full text of the message from the president is as follows:

I have received with deep shock and profound sorrow the news of the sudden and tragic death of Prime Minister Ndugu Edward Moringe Sokoine in a car accident today.

On behalf of the Uganda People's Congress, the government and the people of Uganda, and on my own behalf, I send to you, Mr President, Chama Cha Mapinduzi [CCM], the government and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania our most heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathy on this tragic occasion.

Ndugu Edward Sokoine was a most dedicated and committed member of CCM and served in the office of the minister and prime minister in the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania with distinction. His contribution to the welfare of all Ugandan exiles in Tanzania during the seventies and more so during the war of liberation was [words indistinct] and will remain indelible in the memories of those he served.

The death of Ndugu Sokoine has robbed Tanzania, CCM and indeed members of the UPC of a man whose vision extended beyond the boundaries of Tanzania and covered the whole of east Africa as one community of good neighbors with a common destiny.

We join the people of Tanzania in mourning the loss of this humble and diligent servant of east Africa.

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso Supports 'Peace Initiatives'

AB121338 Dakar PANA in English 1248 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 12 April (AIM/PANA) — Faced with the current aggressive behavior of imperialism, the Marxist states of the African Continent should urgently make joint efforts to confront the situation, declared President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the Congo yesterday, in an interview with the Mozambique journalists accompanying President Samora Machel on his official visit to Congo.

President Sassou-Nguesso, who also heads the country's ruling party, the Congolese Party of Labor (PCT), replying to a question, said the countries of the Third World, and particularly Africa's socialist states, can only live, can only survive, if they strengthen their links of cooperation at both party and government levels.

He added that the relations between Mozambique and Congo were exemplary in this respect. In the last 2 years cooperation between the two countries has grown in scope, and the exchange of delegations has shortened the distance between Maputo and Brazzaville.

Asked for his comments on the situation in southern Africa, the Congolese president declared that his party and his government supported the peace initiatives undertaken by Mozambique and Angola. We think that it is necessary to establish a climate of peaceful coexistence between different regimes, while at the same time continuing the struggle for freedom in Namibia and change in South Africa, he said.

Sassou-Nguesso had already made this position public at the state banquet he had offfered for Samora Machel on Monday. Then he had declared that after having believed for so long that violence and subversion would be effective weapons,the apartheid regime has been forced to negotiate with its neighbors in order to find ways of ensuring peaceful coexistence amongst all the states of the region. In yesterday's interview the Congolese leader said that South Africa had tried to spread its influence in the region, and [words indistinct]. Pretoria had not succeeded, and had been obliged to negotiate, stressed Sassou-Nguesso.

He went on to criticise sharply unnamed countries, both inside and outside Africa, who had been content to leave the struggle against apartheid to the frontline states on their own. This struggle is one for the entire world, and not just the frontline, he exclaimed. Sassou-Nguesso made a comparison with Europe in the 1940's. Then, he said, all mankind was involved in the battle to defeat Nazism. It would not be just to make Mozambique face apartheid on its own.

The Mozambican delegation is leaving Congo today. This morning President Samora is expected to make a speech to cadres of the PCT (Congolese Labor Party). A joint communique and a treaty of friendship and cooperation will be signed by the two presidents.

CAMEROON

Biya Dismisses Key Army Officers, Appoints Others

AB130844 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Following the painful trial which our country has just victoriously overcome, the head of state, Paul Biya, yesterday signed a number of decrees which fall within the framework of military measures aimed at safeguarding security as announced by the president in his 10 April message to the nation. According to the first decree, Colonel Usman Daouda, formerly the president's chief of staff, is dismissed, effective today. The second decree relates to the appointment of personnel at the Ministry of Armed Forces. From the signing of this decree, the following appointments have been made at the General Inspectorate of the Armed Forces Central Services:

Army inspector in charge of recruitment: Lieutenant Colonel (Manse Vet), formerly deputy director of administrative and statutory affairs.

Territorial Military Commands. Commander of the First Military Region: Colonel Pierre (Samodo), formerly Army inspector in charge of recruitment, who replaces Colonel (Oundroit Belaji), who has been dismissed.

The third decree signed yesterday by the president relates to the creation of a post of deputy chief of staff for the president's military staff. The fourth decree appoints a deputy chief of staff for the president's military staff. According to this decree, Major Blaise (Benea Mpeke), formerly head of the service of military affairs of the president's military staff, is appointed deputy chief of staff from the date of signing of this decree.

The last decree appoints a deputy director for presidential security. From the date of signing of this decree, Captain (Avivo Dena Dezansue Yemvo) is appointed to the vacant post of deputy director of presidential security.

Presidency Announces Death Toll in Coup Attempt

AB130815 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] The attempted coup d'etat on 6 April was crushed without any foreign intervention. This was announced in a communique published last night by the Presidency of the Republic which also disclosed the official death toll resulting from this abortive coup d'etat: 70 people were killed including 4 civilians and 8 members of the loyal forces. Fifty-two people were wounded, 1,053 insurgents were taken prisoner, and 265 gendarmes have been reported missing. The material damages are also significant.

The Presidency of the Republic also pointed out that all known organizers of the attempted coup have been arrested, except a junior officer. The security forces are (?looking for him), however.

Commentary Urges 'Drastic Treatment' of Rebels

AB130606 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Luke Ananga commentary]

[Text] When President Paul Biya addressed the Cameroonian nation for the second time in less than 48 hours last Tuesday, one feature was clearly discernible in his words and voice. That feature was determination. Never has he come out so firmly and so unequivocally. Perhaps the situation in the country warranted such firmness, firmness and determination that Cameroonians are itching to see him carry through.

There is one thing remarkable about this president, and it is a very commendable aspect of his leadership. It is this: No matter how serious a situation is — like the one Cameroonians have just passed through, especially the citizens of the national capital — and no matter how much passionate clamor there is, President Paul Biya remains particularly conscious of the constitutionality of his crown. That is why, in spite of popular opinion dictating summary and exemplary punishment to be meted out to the fanatical sons of death, who led the infamous uprising against legality, the head of state, in his account to the people, was determined to have them have the privilege of a court of law.

This medium has no objection to constitutional tenacity. It is not, and will not join those in the bandwagon, advocating pandemonium. This medium is among the select voices of the elite that are quietly but effectively asking that this affair be given the most drastic treatment within the swiftest possible time for many reasons. There is one reason which we would like to stress here. It is that one does not have to be steeped in espionage to know that the leaders of the criminal gang that attempted to overthrow the government are all stooges and puppets manipulated from abroad by the bloodthirsty former president, who is bent on spitting havoc on this country, which has been exceptionally good to him but which he has always fought and fought to divide and either rule or divide and destroy as at now. These criminal dummies now in detention have to be made away with fast, and fast enough before the grand master Mafia man organizes a rescue operation, using those dreadful mercenary legions we know, and creating further havoc here. The president's determination should include this effort to nip further attempts in the bud, to eliminate any further likely recruits here at home, and to learn to fight Machiavelli with Machiavelli. President Biya's voice last Tuesday told us a story that enough is enough; that once bitten twice shy, and he would not — one would like to imagine — let any opportunities slip, including the possibility of eliminating revolt, whatever the source, at home and abroad. And we must even try to use foreign agents and foreign (?bodies).

BENIN

Official Denies Closing of Nigerian Border

AB121950 Paris AFP in French 1843 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Cotonou, 12 Apr (AFP) — A high-ranking Beninese civil servant denied on Thursday reports published in Lagos on Benin's closure of its border with Nigeria.

Raymond Fadonougbo, permanent secretary at the Beninese Ministry of Internal Affairs and Public Security, pointed out at a news conference that Nigerian authorities had begun expelling illegal aliens from Nigeria. He recalled that on 7 April, trucks loaded with aliens passed through Benin to the Togolese border without any difficulty. Togo sent the Ghanaians back to their point of departure, the official pointed out, because the border between Togo and Ghana was closed.

In January of last year, Mr Fadonougbo said, when the Nigerian Government decided to expel illegal aliens, "huge crowds showed up at the Beninese borders, and Benin did everything to facilitate the transit of these expelled persons to the borders of their respective countries," Mr Fadonougbo concluded.

GHANA

First Batch of Deportees From Nigeria Arrives

AB121305 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The first batch of Ghanaians deported from Nigeria were yesterday flown to Accra. Most of them boys and girls aged between 12 and 20 years. About 6,000 illegal immigrants from other West African countries are in custody in Nigeria awaiting deportation. According to reports, many truckloads of the deported Ghanaians were refused entry by the Togolese authorities on their side of the Ghana-Togo border. An official of the repatriation task force told newsmen in Accra that as from today, 15 charter flights will engage in the exercise to evacuate the Ghanaians. According to the chairman of the National Mobilization Committee, Commandant Stephen Obimpeh, the detainees will be made to pay duty on all their belongings and find their own means of transport back to their homes.

In another development, over 400 Ghanaians have been repatriated from Britain since January this year, while about 80 were deported from Holland, France, and West Germany within the same period. Charges preferred against them include overstaying and traveling without legal documents. Sources close to the airport security indicate that the majority of those repatriated could not fulfill immigration requirements on their arrival. Those interviewed by newsmen said they were repatriated [words indistinct].

Deported Ghanaians Refused Entry Via Togo

AB121850 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Nine truckloads of Ghanaians deported from Nigeria were yesterday refused entry into Ghana by Togolese authorities. Accra radio gave no reason for the action of the Togolese, but last year Togo insisted that Ghana should reopen all points of entry along their 900 kilometer border. Relations between the two countries further deteriorated last month when Ghana accused Togo and Ivory Coast of harboring Ghanaian dissidents planning to overthrow the government of Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings.

Official:Government 'Not Bound' To Assist Deportees

AB121956 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The chairman of the National Mobilization Committee, Commodore Steve Obimpeh, has made it clear that the government is not bound to offer any assistance to Ghanaians deported from Nigeria as was the case last year. Commenting on the latest expulsion of Ghanaians from Nigeria, Commodore Obimpeh stressed that there will be no concession for them this time.

Meanwhile, the second batch of 283 Ghanaians expelled from Nigeria were flown home today. The first batch of 154 arrived last month by a special charted flight. The deportees, who are mostly women and children, are among 2,000 Ghanaians being held in custody awaiting repatriation.

In an interview with newsmen at the airport, some of the expelled Ghanaians said they were rounded up in their houses, in the streets, and at their places of work in last Saturday's military and police clamp down on criminals, religious fanatics, and illegal immigrants. Most of the deportees were not allowed to bring along their personal effects. An official of the repatriation task force told newsmen that 15 flights are scheduled to bring the Ghanaians home in an exercise which will take 2 days.

GUINEA

Conakry on Prime Minister's 10 Apr Press Conference

AB122120 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 10 Apr 84

[Press conference given by Prime Minister Colonel Diara Traore in Conakry on 10 April — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, I would like to know the exact position of the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] on the Western Sahara and Chad issues.

[Traore] You are hasty in asking me this question. Western Sahara and Chad are two problems which have been spoken of and written about a great deal. The CMRN has taken over from a government (?which had its position). The CMRN wants to

follow in the wake of other African countries in their efforts to find solutions to our continent's problems. If African countries unanimously work out solutions that can restore peace on our continent, then the CMRN is prepared to endorse such solutions. We do not have a preconceived position. We do not have personal views on these problems. Our views are those of unanimity and of the majority of African countries because we are an OAU member state.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, you (?have spoken of) the ruling class which is excessively large. It is enormous, gigantic. How are you going to single out bad public servants from good ones? And how are you going to restructure the administration, and on the basis of what criteria?

[Traore] Guinea is not a continent. It is a small country with a few million inhabitants, a few thousand cadres who know one another. I will say that in the reorganization exercise, we will call on conscientious cadres, on all civilian cadres, to contribute sincerely to the new society we want to create in Guinea. In principle, for the CMRN, there are no bad cadres because all these cadres in the various ministries suffered the same hardships inflicted by the bloody-thirsty regime as I did — I, the prime minister, speaking to you at this moment.

I know these cadres have already begun to manifest themselves either through letters or on the radio. We are aware that all these cadres endorse the CMRN move unanimously. They have all adhered to CMNR (?efforts). We are not an oppressive regime, but I think that we will assume our responsibilities on a timely basis.

[Reporter] You have not answered my question about the future of the parastatals.

[Traore] I did, you were not listening. I told you that solutions to these questions will be designed in the near future. We are now engaged in house cleaning and cannot immediately make decisions for the sake of making decisions. Each of our decisions must be consistent with the wishes of our people. Each decision must be an incentive to our people who are now longing for nothing but happiness and genuine freedom.

Concerning the enterprises of which you are speaking, they have their place in our country for the time being. As we gradually clear up the situation, we will be able to determine which enterprises can be saved and which ones should disappear. It will all depend on the work we are going to carry out with the cadres at the level of all the ministries. The fundamental criteria for the future Guinean enterprises will be commitment and efficiency as well as hard work.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, in your proposal for a new society, you spoke of a democratic society. The watchdog for a democratic system is the press [words indistinct]. How do you intend to organize [words indistinct]? Will the press also be independent of the state?

[Traore] The press will be more than independent — more than what you imagine. It will be independent in accordance with the prescribed norms. The Guinean press was really gagged and only sang the praises of the former leaders. It was only interested in creating the personality cult of the former leaders. From now on, we have given the press the freedom to criticize, formulate, and write anything it thinks, within the framework of our assigned economic recovery objectives. And like the press, all Guinenan citizens are free to criticize, so that we all can get off the same ferry and reach the other side of the river.

As for justice, there was no justice. The courts existed only by name. They were fictitious. It was only one man who judged and only one man who passed the sentence. The judicial system was so centralized that the real judges were no longer known. Each party militant was a judge, a lawyer, and what have you. We also saw the misdeeds of this type of justice. In light of these things, we intend to bring about a fundamental reform in the judicial system in accordance with our assigned obejctives and within international norms. This is what I have to say on that question.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, if you want to guarantee democracy, apart from the freedom of the press and the rule of law, it is essential that there should be a multiparty system to serve as a watchdog. Do you envisage granting freedom of political expression as well?

[Traore] You talk about watchdogs, but for the moment we do not want any watchdogs. We want to take a path from which we do not risk straying. Some countries have adopted the multiparty system. I take the example of France. I do not know how many parties they have there, but I know there are many. Each party has the right to contest elections. It is true that in the future, we will be thinking about such issues, but for the moment our country has just come out of the darkness, the abyss; it has come out of a very miserable type of life, and I think our only concern is to make our economy a viable one. The people, who today have emerged from this darkness, want to be enlightened, but they want to be enlightened with the most everlasting light.

[Reporter] (?And when are you) sending a goodwill mission?

[Traore] The goodwill mission begins immediately.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, up to now it seems as if Guinea has turned its back to the Western countries and has been closer to the Eastern countries. Are you now going to get closer to the West?

[Traore] For some time Guinea turned its back on the Western countries, but it later turned back to the Western countries, as you know. We are now going to deal with all countries of the world: Western, Eastern, Northern, and Southern. We are going to deal with all the countries wherever they may be, provided our relations with these countries are made under the best circumstances, and provided cooperation with these countries is made in regard to reciprocal mutual respect.

[Reporter] What kind of help do you want from the Western countries?

[Traore] All kinds of help, beginning with economic aid, especially food aid because, as I recently was telling you, the former bloodthirsty regime did not want to tell the truth: Guinea has

been experiencing drought, and this has had adverse effects on the agriculture from which we get our foodstuffs. Right now we are experiencing a food shortage. We are therefore telling all countries, especially Western countries, that the first aid we need is food aid. The second type of aid is economic aid and the third aid is in our new educational system. And this appeal goes notably to France, to help us so that our educational system corresponds to the realities of the world.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, you have not spoken much about the Army. Will it be restructured? Is it going to be reformed? What kind of Army do you want?

[Traore] The Army is really going to be (?restructured). It was no longer an Army but a real messy place. [laughter] We now want a modern Army, a well-equipped Army — and here again I want to take this opportunity to appeal to all the countries of the world, especially France — to help our Army become a true Army in defense of its country. We do not want to be the second or fifth best Army in the world, but we want an Army in the true sense of the word that can first of all be the pride of the people of Guinea — an Army that will be there always to watch over the defense and territorial integrity of our dear fatherland.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, Guinea was scheduled to host the 20th summit of the OAU. Is the country ready? Is the government ready to host the OAU?

[Traore] It seems to me that the head of state in his first press conference with you gave the country's point of view and the Guinean people's point of view on this issue. Guinea insists that it should be held in Conakry. We will take all the necessay measures and every effort will be made to have the 20th summit of the OAU effectively held in Guinea because Guinea is proud, first of all to be a member of the OAU, but proud most of all to be the first founding member [as heard] of this organization. It is for this reason that we insist that the 20th summit be the affair of the people of Guinea.

CMRN Communiques on Levies, Roadblocks Reported

AB121920 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1615 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Communiques issued by the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] in Conakry on 12 April 1984]

[Text] The CMRN [words indistinct] to civil servants on one hand and to the brave peasants on the other by the defunct regime, has decided beginning today to suspend the CDR, [regional development contribution] imposed on all civil servants, to suspend the trade union levy of 0.50 percent, and to suspend the CDR on all products. The CDR rate is now fixed at 700 sily instead of 800. It is clear that products and sums already collected are and remain the exclusive property of the state.

Second communique: The CMRN, in an effort to make the movement of persons and goods an effective reality, decides:
1. To suspend interregional road blocks with the exception of the one at (Lansania) on the outskirts of Conakry for national economic control reasons.
2. Road blocks at border posts must be maintained and strengthened. The CMRN urges provincial general governors and regional governors to ensure the strict implementation of this communique. [signed] The CMRN

IVORY COAST

Guinea's Traore Makes Visit, Explains Policy

Arrives in Abidjan

AB120711 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 930 GMT 11 Apr 84

[Text] The Guinean prime minister arrived in Abidjan this afternoon. Colonel Diara Traore, who is accompanied by two members of his government, is in Abidjan to explain to President Houphouet-Boigny the recent changes in Guinea. This is the first visit abroad by the ruling military government in Guinea. After Abidjan, the delegation will visit many African countries, including Senegal, where they are expected next Saturday. Col Diara Traore was welcomed on arrival at the Port-Bouet Airport by Camille Alliali, minister of state. He was surrounded by many members of the party Executive Committee and the government. A large number of Guinean nationals residing in the Ivory Coast was also at the airport to greet the new prime minister. Col Diara Traore, who could not hide his satisfaction with the reception, had this to say to the press:

[Begin Traore recording] On behalf of the Guinean people, the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN], the president of the republic, and on behalf of my delegation, I would like to express our happiness at being in Ivory Coast for the first time since the change in government in our country. We are also happy with the reception accorded us this morning, which is a proof of the readiness of our brothers in the Ivory Coast. We are very glad, and we convey to you the fraternal greetings of the Guinean people. [end recording]

The Guinean prime minister was received this evening by President Houphouet-Boigny at his private residence in Cocody in the presence of members of the party Executive Committee. Col Traore leaves Abidjan tomorrow for Lome, Togo, which will be the second stage of his African tour.

Meets Houphouet-Boigny

AB121310 Paris AFP in French 0835 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Abidjan, 12 Apr (AFP) — Ivorian head of state Felix Houphouet-Boigny affirmed on Wednesday night that his country was prepared to "frankly and sincerely" cooperate with Conakry at the end of a discussion with Colonel Diara Traore, Guinean prime minister, it was learned on Thursday.

Col Traore, who was received by the Ivorian president in his private residence in Cocody (an Abidjan district) just after his arrival in the economic capital of the Ivory Coast, on his part recalled the secular bonds uniting Guinea and the Ivory Coast.

The Guinean ministers of foreign affairs and international cooperation, Captain Facine Toure and Captain Fode Momo Camara respectively, were present at the meeting. The Ivorian president was accompanied by the members of his government. [passage indistinct]

Commenting this visit on Thursday, the Ivorian daily *FRATERNITE MATIN* emphasizes that the choice of Abidjan as the first stage of Col Traore's tour was not by "mere chance" [passage indistinct] The prime minister was to leave Abidjan on Thursday morning for Lome (Togo).

LIBERIA

Doe Makes Anniversary Address 12 April

AB121520 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1325 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Speech by Head of State Samuel K. Doe on 12 April 1984 at the Barclay Training Center in Monrovia, marking the fourth anniversary of the military takeover — live]

[Excerpts] Mr Vice Head of State, Mr Deputy Vice Head of State, Mr Speaker, Mr Secretary General, and members of the council, Mr Chief Justice and members of the Supreme Court, Mr Chairman and members of the Special Military Tribunal, Mr Chief of Staff and members of the Armed Forces of Liberia, Mr Chairman and members of the Constitutional Advisory Assembly, Mr Chairman and members of the Special Election Commission, Mr Vice Doyen and members of the diplomatic corps, heads of concessions and business houses, prelates, fellow citizens, ladies and gentlemen:

On this occasion marking the fourth anniversary of our popular revolution, we must give thanks and praises to God for his many blessings toward us as a nation and a people. In spite of apprehensions by those who thought our government would not last, we are proud today that the hands of the Almighty God have been upon us and our ship of state is still sailing on. Since that historic day, [12 April 1980], we have been working constructively and persistently toward completing the goal of national reconstruction to a point of beauty, honor, and [word indistinct].

On this momentous occasion, therefore, I am at a loss of words to express the contrast between the early days of our revolution and the present. The process of consolidation has been sometimes baffling and sometimes bitter, punctuated regrettably by violent obstacles and betrayals. But with determination, we have achieved a reasonable degree of stability and (?honorable) government where the hopes of all our people can be realized in the context of mutual understanding, oneness, peace, prosperity, and solidarity. Great and new potentials have been on us and the people have become conscious of the supreme role which men under the (?influence) of freedom can only play when conditions compel us to labor and end the bonds of nationality and never permit personal ambitions and selfishness to becloud our discretion and our good judgment. [as heard] I believe that a good judgment is always the better part of valor. Thus, as we move steadily toward the establishment of the second republic, let us take a moment to reflect on the full realization of the lessons and trials of our struggles and experiences during these past 4 years. We must have the full understanding of the responsibility imposed by true freedom, for we can boast of an awaking people struggling to build a peaceful nation.

My fellow citizens, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, it will be recalled that the 12 April 1980 revolution was precipitated by a situation in which the policy [words indistinct]. Government operations were hampered by unacceptable lapse in implemention [as heard] resulting from lack of political will to execute its own policies and pronouncements. The national leadership, unable to govern instinctively, resorted to political suppression and repression. Thus, having determined that all avenues for peaceful change were firmly closed, we the men and women of the Armed Forces of Liberia assumed power and established the People's Redemption Council [PRC]. We have also dedicated ourselves to the promotion of genuine national unity, improvement in the quality of life of the Liberian people, and the continued commitment to (?extending) the frontiers of international peace, goodwill, and freedom. In pursuance of our set objective of promoting genuine national unity, we embarked upon the process of releasing all political prisoners who were detained after the April 12 revolution. We also granted unconditional pardon to those who fled into political exile. We returned most of the confiscated property to their original owners.

I am pleased to announce that the council has accepted a petition from the people of (Krucoz and Fatar) territories for the establishment of a county. [applause]

Thus, effective immediately, the 11th county called Grand Kru County is hereby created with the capital at (Bapeduo). [applause] As the economic situation continues to be critical, the PRC empowered me to take a more active role in economic matters and to personally seek assistance and investment from abroad. In pursuance of this mandate, during the last 4 years, we visited several countries including the People's Republic of China, the ROK, Kuwait, Egypt, the United States, Israel, and the Kingdom of Belgium among others. From the visit of the People's Republic of China, we secured from the Chinese Government a loan of $13.5 million for agricultural development as well as technical assistance in the field of nursing, a number of buses, and military vehicles. We have also received several buses and military vehicles from the ROK as gifts to the people of Liberia. We concluded cooperation agreements with Israel in the fields of air services, medicine, agriculture, and training. A $20 million project for the revitalization of our agricultural mechanization and rural development program has begun under this arrangement.

From the Kingdom of Belgium, we obtained a $2 million soft loan representing the first official bilateral assistance to Liberia from that country. Of far-reaching significance to our economic development was the conclusion during our visit to Belgium of a cooperation agreement between the government and VDK [expansion unknown], a public Belgian firm for the consolidation of the oil palm sector industry in Liberia. The project is estimated at over $22 million. We attach particular importance to this project because we believed it will contribute immensely to employment generation, provide [word indistinct] for small farmers, and help improve our revenue situation.

Mr fellow citizens, distinguished ladies and gentlemen: In the furtherance of our objective of promoting international peace and goodwill, we have kept in view the historical significance of Liberia's role in African and world affairs. As the oldest independent African republic, we believe that we have a moral obligation to pursue a policy designed to maintain international order governed by the rule of law. In this regard, we have remained firm and determined in (?supporting) the right of all people to self-determination. We continue to relentlessly support the African liberation struggle, particularly in southern Africa. We further believe that in an increasingly independent world, the attainment of our national objectives and the ability to exert influence in support of this objective can best be accomodated through cooperation on regional and global bases. Therefore, Liberia continues to support the United Nations and the purpose and principles of its charter. We see a strong and effective United Nations as the best hope for mankind in the resolution of disputes, achieving disarmament and arms control, and for promoting international peace and security. We also support the OAU and believe it should serve as an effective forum for finding solutions to African problems and for the promotion of African economic, political, and cultural cooperation. The Mano River Union and the ECOWAS continue to serve as cornerstones of Liberia's subregional and regional policies. We also remain committed to the objectives and ideals of the nonaligned countries movement and the Group of 77. Our government has continued to extend the hand of friendship to all peace-loving nations and people based on our belief in principles of noninterference in the internal affairs of other nations, respect for territorial integrity of all states, the sovereign equality of all states, and in recognition of mankind's common destiny.

In this connection, we expect that diplomatic officers assigned to this country will endeavor to develop an appreciation and indeed become sensitive to our distinguished attitudes and unique national circumstances. We cannot accept and accomodate any diplomatic officer who will engage in acts which are incompatible with diplomatic practices and will prove insensitive to our particular national situation, especially during this period of our nationhood. It is against this background that we thought just to expel two diplomatic officers recently. We made it clear that the action against those individuals was intended to preserve the good relations existing between Liberia and those two countries respectively. We express the hope, therefore, that they will soon be replaced by representatives who will dedicate their energy to promoting cooperation and mutually rewarding intercourse between our respective countries.

In attempting to determine whether a broad adjustment could be accomodated within the existing timetable, the committee revealed that the actual work being done by both the assembly and the Special Election Commission has fallen behind the prescribed time by 8 months. [passage indistinct] Accordingly, the committee proposed a revision in the timetable which advised the lifting of the ban on political activities from 12 April to 26 July 1984, the holding of legislative elections on 8 October 1985, presidential elections on 5 November, and Liberation day and transfer of power on the first Monday in January 1986. Therefore, in spite of this extention, the transition to civilian rule will have been acquired substantially before the end of 1985, consistent with the role and sociological imperatives to honor our pledge to our people.

My fellow citizens, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, we realize that the fibers of transition to civilian rule will require substantial financial resources to implement. We therefore announce that approximately $3 million will be needed for its successful completion. We further appeal to all of you citizens at home and abroad, to governments and international organizations, and to all those who have the interests of Liberia at heart to assist us in realizing this goal. We had hoped that the vocal concern expressed by some of our citizens, especially those abroad and our traditional allies, for the return to democratic rule, would have been completed, [word indistinct] through financial contribution. Despite our current financial constraints, government has spent almost $2 million toward the constitutional process. This commitment may be compared against $350,000 contributed by the United States, $30,000 by the FRG, and $2,000 from Liberian citizens making voluntary contributions toward the process. Since we made the initial estimate of $3 million for the constitutional process, the cost has escalated substantially. We must therefore, be prepared to shoulder this additional cost, for we believe the process must go on.

Thus, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, despite our demonstrated commitment to see this exercise through, we note that some of our traditional friends who attempt to threaten us with cutting off aid because of an extension of the timetable. We consider it unacceptable interference to question a fundamental decision affecting the lives and future of our peoples within the context of election year policies. The extension of the timetable, which had the input of all the major policy-making bodies of the country, was a sovereign decision.

Mr Vice Head of State, my fellow citizens, although the Constitution of 1847 guaranteed to all the enjoyment of the fundamental human rights, which claimed the right to a decent standard of living, some practice and attitudes in Liberia have for over 135 years perpetuated the existence of two social groups. It was in this consideration of social groups' divergencies in our society that we have insistently and persistently exercised the need to promote genuine national unity. We have also consistently urged our people to effect changes in attitudes and support the national cause, within the spirit of one nation, one people, one destiny.

Thus, I submit that when we seized power, we were united fundamentally in the objective to redeem our people. We had not fully analyzed the individual ambition and political ideologies of each member of the group. We embraced or evaluated theories and ideas. We, in good faith, recruited individuals from the various political groupings whom we believed shared our motivations for the redemption of our people and to assist in running the government. Unfortunately, the evil hands of ambitions, selfishness, disunity, and [word indistinct] began to display themselves within our ranks. We began to uncover plans to subvert and overthrow our government by some of those who marched with us in the early hours of that fateful 12 April morning. Consequently, we had to depend on the dictates of our conscience and the spirit of national reconciliation to grant clemency to 10 individuals convicted of treason, mutiny, and conspiracy recently. That group which plotted to overthrow our government

involved my friend and colleague, former Commanding General Thomas G. Quiwonkpa who, regrettably, was not present when the fate of his colleagues had been decided. However, within the continued period of reconciliation, unity, and goodwill, I hereby grant unconditional clemency to my friend and brother, former Commanding General Thomas Quiwonkpa. [applause] I invite him to return home where his safety will be assured.

NIGERIA

Reports Says 2,000 Illegal Aliens Airlifted

AB121845 Lagos International Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The Nigeria Airways has embarked on the airlift of illegal aliens to their various countries. Reports say that 2,000 aliens were lifted today. The airline said in a statement that five aircraft have been provided for the exercise which is expected to continue until Sunday. The illegal aliens were arrested last week in various parts of Lagos.

TOGO

Guinean Prime Minister Arrives in Lome

AB130605 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Colonel Diara Traore, prime minister of the Republic of Guinea, arrived in Lome this morning. He was met at the Lome-Tokoin International Airport by Anani Kuma Akakpo-Ahianyo, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and by the Guinean ambassador to Togo, His Excellency Sama Doumboya. Present with Mr Ahianyo at the airport was his personal under secretary, Ndama Dramani. Senior officers of the Togolese Armed Forces were also present at the airport this morning. The honor guard was commanded by Lieutenant Barnabe.

Soon after his arrival, the Guinean statesman and his delegation were received by the head of state, General Gnassingbe Eyadema.

British Parliamentary Group Departs 11 April

AB121306 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The head of state, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, yesterday received in audience a 4-man British delegation. The delegation left Lome yesterday morning. At the end of the audience, Kenneth Varin, head of the delegation, expressed his satisfaction and that of his colleagues with their visit to Togo. Regarding cooperation between British and Togolese parliamentarians, the head of the delegation stated that during the working session held by the two groups they tried to work out ways of cooperating in the fields of education and industry, as well as in the social sector. After visits to the interior, Mr Varin said it is evident that the United Kingdom and Togo have a great opportunity to cooperate, especially in the industrial and technological sectors.

ANGOLA

Foreign Minister Interviewed on Cuban Involvement

DW121359 Stuttgart ARD Television Network in German 1915 GMT 11 Apr 84

["Excerpt" from interview with Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge by correspondent Mario Offenburg in Luanda; date not given; in Portuguese with superimposed German translation — recorded]

[Text] [Jorge] I think it is necessary to consider two things in assessing Cuba's participation in the efforts for Angola's national reconstruction. The first is military and involves the training of our experts for the Angolan regular Armed Forces. The other thing pertains to mutual cooperation. In this connection, it is imperative to emphasize the extraordinary assistance that the People's Republic of Angola has received from Cuba in the areas of health, education, fishing, agriculture, and construction. Also, the truth is that when the Governments of Angola and Cuba jointly started to gradually reduce the number of Cuban troops in Angola, South Africa again stepped up its attacks. This very fact justifies the presence of the Cuban forces which help us to prevent possible aggression by Pretoria.

GDR Official Arrives With Message for Dos Santos

MB121600 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 2300 GMT 11 Apr 84

[Text] Gerd Koenig, deputy minister of foreign affairs [title as heard] of the GDR, has been in Luanda since yesterday with a message from Erich Honecker, first secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, for Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Approached by the news media at the 4 February International Airport, the minister of foreign affairs of the GDR expressed his happiness upon visiting Angola. He stated that he was convinced that the expected consultations and talks on the international situation and matters related to cooperation between the two countries will be very fruitful for both parties.

First Trade Union Congress Opens in Luanda

MB121930 Luanda ANGOP in French 1045 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Luanda, 12 Apr (ANGOP) — The working sessions of the First Congress of the Angolan Trade Unions [UNTA] started in Luanda yesterday. They continued this morning with the reading of the report of the activities of the UNTA Central Committee by Pascual Luvualu, UNTA's secretary general. We recall that yesterday was marked by the approval of the agenda and regulations of the congress, as well as the presentation of the first part of the report on the activities of the UNTA Central Committee. In his address, Pascual Luvualu, who conducted the review of UNTA activities, said that UNTA should lead the Angolan workers who have taken the colonialists' trade unions by storm and created the foundations for victory in the struggle against reactionary forces and puppets who are at the service of imperialism. Pascual Luvualu said he wished to take the opportunity to stress that the UNTA congress will draw up a critical assessment and a self-criticism of the work done during these last years, which will serve as an inspiration to UNTA's new tasks for the revolution and to peace and stability in southern Africa.

UNITA To Intensify Actions Against MPLA

MB121530 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The UNITA movement in Angola has given notice that it intends to intensify its actions in an all-out effort against the MPLA government. A senior UNITA official, Mr Jeremiah Chitunda, has told Radio RSA's Washington representative that a Cuban withdrawal from Angola is a prerequisite to peace and stability in all of southern Africa. He says that it is extremely important to understand that, unless there is peace between UNITA and the MPLA in Angola, serious problems for the entire region will remain. On the question of a Cuban withdrawal, Mr Chitunda said this is essential before constructive peace talks could be held within Angola. He said that, since the arrival of the Cubans in Angola in 1975, the conflict within the country had become internationalized to the point where local problems could no longer be solved in an effective and long-lasting manner. Turning to the (?proposed) discussions between the MPLA and the U.S. Administration, Mr Chitunda said UNITA regarded this as little more than an opportunity for both parties to restate their stand on Angolan issues as they saw the situation now.

MADAGASCAR

Cyclone Kamisy Causes Extensive Damage

MB121354 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The town of Mahajanga has been 80 percent destroyed by Cyclone Kamisy. This is the first assessment of the effects of the cyclone. A number of people have been injured and communications with the capital of the [word indistinct] is still difficult as of broadcast time. The wind this morning was blowing at 220 km per hour in that region. The road between Mahajanga and the airport at Ambozovy is blocked with fallen trees. In Antseranana no precise assessment has been made yet of loss of human life. We recall that seven people have been reported as missing after a small boat capsized.

Cyclone Kamisy is presently between the town of (?Morovoay) and (Nabadovoi) and is continuing to move southeast at a speed of 20 km per hour. It is accompanied by torrential rains. A total of 244 mm of rain have fallen on Mahajanga and 134 mm on (Ressoule) in 24 hours. The winds are blowing with tremendous force. As they passed Mahajanga they reached a speed of over 220 km per hour.

The (?residents), who have been warned about the cyclone, are continuing to follow the instructions given to them. (? Places facing) imminent danger are (Ranvoi), Mahajanga 1 and 2, (Nabadovoi), (Lichingi), (Doualala), (Dechalan), (Ambadomey), (Kandou), Mevatanana, (Saratanana), (Madjoun), Port-Berge, (Dezourbey), Ankazobe, and (Penurousbe). (?Places which could

be threatened) are (Mahajakanjini), (Andriamarsene), (Mbjoudjachini), (Sournamigi), (Armery), [name indistinct], (Bataramaske), (Varatsoui), (Suave Majingi), and Antananarivo 1 and 2. The weather forecast for this evening predicts heavy rains over all of [word indistinct], mostly over the northwest and the plateau, and winds over the southwest. Cyclone Kamisy is also [words indistinct] on the coastal area of Comoro Archipelago. More than 50 percent of the 55,000 inhabitants of Mayotte have been stricken by it. Most of the homes built with light materials have been blown away by winds blowing at (?180) km per hour. Rice plantations on Mayotte and [word indistinct] have been totally destroyed.

Mayotte, which chose to remain under French control in 1976 after the independence of Comoro, has already received relief aid, including medicines and legionnaires in charge of administering foodstuffs and medicines.

Minister Describes Cyclone Damage

MB130836 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] Here are reports on Cyclone Kamisy. Kamisy was this morning 50 km south of (Ambanjanzake) town and bringing torrential rains to the eastern half of the plateau and corresponding coastal regions. From its present position, the cyclone will move to the sea from the (Fourtaville) region early this afternoon with increased force. The residents of (Peniruresse), Toamasina 1, Toamasina 2, (Trekaville), (Batimandi) and Mahanoro are asked to apply all measures to avert threats from the cyclone. Similar warning measures are being lifted for the residents of (Kutundunana), but they still remain in force for (Pupundanana),(Antourbe), Manjakandriana, (Antamasme), (Amparaparajui), (Ambaturajake), (Muramade) and (Babakey).

The intense Cyclone Kamisy is expected to move to the sea early this afternoon after leaving extensive destruction in Antseranana and Mahajanga. This was stated at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday afternoon by Foreign Minister Jean Benamanjara when he reported to the diplomatic corps accredited to Antananarivo on the damage caused by the intense tropical cyclone in Antseranana and Mahajanga.

The town of Antseranana has been 80 percent destroyed. The cyclone also caused damage on the outskirts of the town in (Secrene), (Mekere), (Shalana), (Melete), and (Akumetsele). It destroyed the generator at the local shipyard, disrupted electricity, and destroyed scores of administrative blocks. The number of people who have been stricken by the cyclone is at the moment put at (?35,000). This is the temporary assessment that Minister Benamanjara gave at the meeting with members of the diplomatic corps at the Foreign Ministry at (Anousi).

He also informed those present on the damage caused to (?harvests and food granaries in Mahajanga). The country needs urgent relief assistance. It needs about 100,000 metric tons of cement for Antseranana, 250,000 corrugated iron sheets for the reconstruction of residences, 100 metric tons of (?paint) and at least 100,000 (?packets of milk). He called on the diplomats present to transmit to their respective governments the call for assistance made to all friendly countries by Madagascar, which is now facing damage assessed at $100 million or even more.

Mahajanga is another town which has been 80 percent destroyed. This is the first assessment. It sustained considerable material damage. In that town 15 people have died, 7 are missing, and about 30 others have been injured. It is worth recalling that Mahajanga was just recovering from a previous cyclone, the 11th of the season. An emergency plan is being initiated to render assistance to cyclone-stricken people, but this is very difficult to put into action because the affected regions are practically isolated from the rest of the island as a result of the disruption of all communication.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Returns After Signing Congo Treaty

MB130741 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] President Samora Machel returned to the country early this evening from Brazzavile, capital of the People's Republic of the Congo, where he made an official and friendly visit. President Samora Machel was welcomed at Maputo International Airport by Mariano Matsinhe, member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau and minister of security.

This morning, before ending his visit to the Congo, President Samora Machel signed with Dennis Sassou-Nguesso, his Congolese counterpart, a treaty of friendship and cooperation valid for 15 years. A Mozambique-Congo joint communique of the visit made by the Mozambican head of state was released on the same occasion. Speaking to the press soon after these two ceremonies were held, President Samora Machel said, quote: The arrival was pleasant, but the departure is difficult because we have met friends, brothers, and comrades in this country. We met a warm people who are very friendly to the Mozambican people. They are an industrious and happy people, who always carry happiness with them. They also carry certain victory with them.

The Mozambican head of state said that during his visit to the Congo, he had seen the great achievements of the party and government. President Samora Machel stressed that the economy is the dominating aspect in the leadership of the Congolese Labor Party. Everywhere we saw efforts to better the life of the people. We saw it in Brazzaville and, noticeably, in Pointe-Noire, President Samora Machel said. Later, Marshal Samora Machel met with cadres of the Congolese Labor Party at the party school, where, for about an hour, he gave a broad picture of the situation in southern Africa. It will be recalled that earlier President Samora Machel made an official visit to Zaire.

FPLM Chief of Staff Addresses Soldiers

MB121056 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] Lieutenant General Sebastiao Marcos Mabote, the chief of FPLM General Staff, has urged FPLM officers and noncommissioned officers in Dondo District, Sofala Province, to redouble

efforts in order to eliminate the armed bandits. Addressing a meeting of the officers, Sebastiao Marcos Mabote stressed the need of working toward ensuring the economic and social stability of the region. The chief of the FPLM General Staff is in Sofala Province on a working visit. He is accompanied by Major General Joaquim Munhepe, the state secretary for defense, and the head of telecommunications of the Defense Ministry.

Yugoslav Official Meets With Economic Minister

MB130646 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] (?Tarik Ajanovic), Yugoslav deputy foreign minister, [as heard] said in Maputo yesterday that his country supports Mozambique's efforts to secure peace in southern Africa. The Yugoslav deputy foreign minister specifically referred to the Nkomati Accord signed on 16 March between Mozambique and South Africa. During a meeting yesterday morning with Jacinto Veloso, minister in the presidency for economic affairs, he received explanations on the objectives of that accord.

Health Plan Signed With Czechoslovakia

MB130650 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] In Maputo yesterday, Mozambique and Czechoslovakia signed a joint working plan in the field of health for 1984-85. According to AIM, the plan is a result of the general health cooperation agreement between the two countries signed in Maputo in May 1982. The joint working plan provides for the training of cadres, medical documentation, and medical assistance for Mozambican patients in Czechoslovakia.

SOUTH AFRICA

Botha Returns From Talks in Malawi With Banda

MB121922 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has returned to South Africa after a visit to Malawi for talks with President Kamuzu Banda. Speaking on his arrival at Waterkloof Air Base near Pretoria, Mr Botha said that activities of the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] movement in Mozambique had been among the matters discussed. President Banda was concerned about possible sabotage of the Nacala railway line by the movement. The line and harbor facilities at the rail terminal were being improved and a great deal of money would be lost if the line weresabotaged. President Banda had appealed to the South African Government to help with the administration of the line, and Mr Botha said that he would be discussing the matter with the minister of transport affairs, Mr Schoeman. President Banda was greatly intersted in the Accord of Nkomati between South Africa and Mozambique, as he had been one of the pioneers in this peace initiative. Mr Botha said that the Malawian leader had expressed the hope that the agreement would help to assure his country of reliable communications links and export facilities.

British Envoy Reacts to BEELD Editorial

MB121700 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 10 Apr 84 p 13

[Letter to *BEELD* from Mr Ewen Fergusson, British ambassador to South Africa; *BEELD* headline: "ANC Must Stay Within British Law"]

[Text] In your editorial of 5 April, you referred to important aspects of Britain's attitude towards terrorism. I notice that you refer to the "smooth British diplomacy." You may think that I, a former lock forward [rugby position], do not fit the role. I hope, however, that you will allow me the opportunity to comment, as this is a matter which understandably stirs up strong feelings among many South Africans. It is important that there should be no misunderstanding about our position. I will be making this letter more freely available. The British Government has openly and consistently condemned terrorism. Its position on this matter is unshakable. The first foreign condemnation of the Durban bomb blast came from London.

Our condemnation is based on the rule of law. Another British tradition, equally old, is our belief in the right of people to express their convictions within the rule of law. This is the reason that for many generations people of all nationalities, religions, and political persuasions have sought shelter in Britain.

As long as a person's actions are within our law, and until there is evidence to the contrary which can stand the test in our courts, he is free to do as he pleases. No one can deny that this freedom can lead to difficult moral and practical problems. What we may see as praiseworthy tolerance towards others will be seen by another as deplorable license. The presence in the United Kingdom of people and organizations whose aims may differ radically from our values and the values of others with whom we maintain good relations may elicit reactions harmful to our practical interests at home and abroad. Over a long period the British have, however, judged that their values are best served by allowing those people and organizations who came to Britain to speak and act freely as long as they stay within the law. I do not necessarily expect you to agree with this. You must accept that on our side this is a very firm and general belief.

You have referred to Ireland. We are striving to maintain the supremacy of the law in Northern Ireland as we do throughout the United Kingdom and to fight terrorism by every means within the law. We share this goal with the Irish Republic, which is also suffering from the terror of those with guns and bombs. We try to ensure that the nature of the problems in Northern Ireland, as complex as they are, are understood abroad.

We hope and expect that countries well disposed towards Britain will apply their laws against those who support the campaign of terror. We ask for nothing more. Naturally, we condemn unconditionally those countries which give help to terrorism. You speak of a "strong negative feeling" towards Britain. From which side? I can only say that my staff and I, who meet a wide range of South Africans from all communities and from all levels of society daily, would find this highly exceptional. The task of the British Embassy is to try to ensure that the reasons behind British policy affecting South Africa are clearly understood. Not every-

one has the patience to study the arguments in detail. It is possible that our policies, like those of the South African Government, are based on a balance between all the conflicting elements. I can assure you that no British Government can ignore the importance of the many positive and old ties that bind us — nor the continued warmth of the personal ties between the people of our two countries.

BEELD Comments on Letter

MB121710 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 10 Apr 84 p 12

[Editorial: "British and South Africa"]

[Text] The unusual step taken by the British ambassador to South Africa in reacting by means of a letter to our editorial on British-South African affairs last week indicates a sensitivity over a situation which is still rather tense. That Mr Ewen Fergusson made the letter available for wider dissemination underlines the fact that he wishes to correct the negative feelings in South Africa through clarification. This negativeness cannot be argued away. This is evident from a number of letters in *BEELD* and, the most recent example, the statement by Mr Jac Rabie of the Labor Party. According to Mr Fergusson's letter, the problem between South Africa and Britain is twofold. Firstly, the ambassador appeals for tolerance and freedom for those of all convictions who abide by the law.

If that is the case, South Africans may ask, then why the lack of tolerance towards those British who wish to take part in sport with South Africa? Why turn the intimidating forces of the state against those who wish to exercise certain basic (and innocent) freedoms? And then Whitehall literally stumbles over its feet in order to accommodate one of the victims of that boycott intimidation — Zola Budd. It is difficult to understand the morality in this.

Secondly, there is the question of terrorism. Mr Fergusson says Britain "expects" "friendly" countries to enforce their laws "against those who support the campaign of violence." In this regard, as for the Irish Republican Army, presumably, Britain for years has been making America and other countries understand that they should stop support for the IRA. Cannot South Africa expect the same with regard to, for example, the ANC from the friendly Britain? Or is the British definition of violence and terrorism such that it only includes British interests? And is Britain perhaps not "friendly"?

Mr Fergusson also says: "We condemn unconditionally those countries which give help to terrorism." Allowing a terrorist organization like the ANC to maintain an organizational and propaganda infrastructure in the British capital — is that not also assistance? Britain's so-called idealistic toleration of the ANC allows that organization to plan its strategies and violence against the republic. Even South Africa's neighboring states have come to see the ANC in a different light, but in Britain a one-sided feeling of fairness and justice still prevails. Mr Fergusson gratefully acknowledges the warmth between South Africa and Britain. We hope this attachment persists, but then it is obvious that it calls for some deep thinking about motives and morality in order that all diplomatic obstructive factors can be clearly spelled out.

SWAZILAND

2 ANC Members Captured in Manzini, 1 at Large

MB121740 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] The Royal Swaziland Police today combed the bush around the Village of Peace in pursuit of an eighth man who escaped from a group of nine heavily armed men who were arrested yesterday in a major police operation in Mbabane. Members of the police mobile unit and plainclothes police were led to the man's hideout by one of their number, who was arrested after opening fire at the Club 701 two days ago. The men are believed to be part of a group of 15 others who escaped from police custody in Simunye last Sunday.

The eight men were apprehended after a heavy exchange of gunfire with police at Eveni Village, where dozens of guests who attended the late King Sobhuza's diamond jubilee celebrations were housed. Police sources later confirmed they had confiscated several AK-47 rifles and an undisclosed number of hand grenades and ammunition. One of the police officers who was involved in yesterday's operation says he was lucky to be alive after bullets fired by one of the escapees whizzed a few inches past his face and struck a nearby tree. All in all, 10 men, including 2 who were arrested in Manzini, were securely behind bars yesterday evening. The two who were arrested in Manzini have been positively identified as part of the group that escaped from the Simunye police.

More on ANC Arrests

MB131024 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 13 Apr 84 p 1

[By *TIMES* reporter]

[Text] The police crackdown on armed members of the ANC has led to secrets [as published] of hidden weapons being exposed. A reliable police source disclosed that members of the ANC who were arrested during Wednesday's operation in Mbabane had disclosed locations of hidden arms caches and the whereabouts of other armed ANC members. It is not known if any arrests were made as a result of the new tip-offs. But it is understood that a second search in the house in which some ANC members were found on Wednesday did not produce any fruitful results. A police contingent which had searched the house in Eveni was yesterday seen proceeding towards Manzini. But a spokesman for police headquarters revealed that the seven ANC men arrested after the shoot-out in Mbabane were not members of the group of 15 which escaped from Simunye police station. The spokesman said they were members of a separate group, but declined to elaborate.

Asked to confirm if any arms were found, the spokesman said: "They cannot have been shooting with their fingers could they? I know of two people in the Simunye group of 15 who were

arrested in Manzini," he said. Again no details were given. He said the searches were continuing for all armed bands in the country.

Zambian Commonwealth Official Departs for Home

MB130804 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1630 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The minister without portfolio, Mr Mhambi Mnisi says her majesty the queen regent's Parliament will consistently and unequivocally express its loyalty to the Commonwealth as a unique international family which will pledge its commitment to a parliamentary democracy. Mr Mnisi was speaking at a state party held at the Ezulwini Holiday Inn in honor of the Zambian minister of state for decentralization and representative to the executive committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association [CPA], Mr Lavu Mulimba, last night.

Mr Mnisi noted that the CPA has played, as he put it, a prominent role in promoting understanding among its members and in strengthening the Commonwealth. He said the Commonwealth has demonstrated how nations should conduct their mutual relations for mutual benefit, and that the dialogue the Commonwealth believes in is the cornerstone of the Kingdom's strategy that human and international problems can be resolved through good will peacefully. Mr Mnisi highlighted the advantage of being a member of the Commonwealth as that of belonging to an association of peoples of different colors, races, religions, and culture. He said those people have chosen voluntarily to ignore the difference in preference for a united community of interests, respect for the rule of law, human rights, and freedoms, just for the pursuit of positive ideals of parliamentary democracy. In reply, the Zambian minister of state for decentralization pointed out that Zambia highly values parliamentary democracy as the basis for the rule of law. Mr Mulimba said Zambian parliamentarians enjoy freedom during parliamentary debates. Commenting on his visit to Swaziland, Mr Mulimba expressed the hope that it would be very fruitful and anticipated that relations between Zambia and Swaziland will be improved. Mr Mulimba, who was accompanied by the Zambian high commissioner to Swaziland, Mr Cox Sikumba, then hinted that the prime minister of Zambia might visit Swaziland. Also present at the state party were cabinet ministers, the president of the Swaziland House of Senate, the speaker of the House of Assembly, and members of Parliament. Today the southern African regional representative of the Executive Committee of the CPA, Mr L. Mulimba, who is also Zambia's minister of state for decentralization, left the country this afternoon for home after 2 days of an official visit to Swaziland.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Sends Congratulations Message to Chernenko

MB130652 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, today sent a congratulatory message to President Konstantin Chernenko on his election as a member and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. The president said in the short period Mr Chernenko has been general secretary of the Central Committee, Zambians have come to admire his able and effective leadership. Dr Kaunda said Mr Chernenko was dedicated to the welfare of the Soviet people and the world as a whole, and to the cause of world peace and security. He said the double role President Chernenko holds was a demonstration of the confidence the Soviet people have in him and is fitting recognition of his qualities of leadership and statemanship.

Kaunda Sends Condolences on Sokoine's Death

MB121900 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] President Kaunda has said the passing away of the Tanzanian prime minister, Edward Sokoine, in a car accident this afternoon is a great loss not only to Tanzania but also to Zambia, Africa, and the progressive world as a whole. In a message of condolence sent to his Tanzanian counterpart, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, on the death of Ndugu Sokoine, who died on the Dodoma-Morogoro road, Dr Kaunda said Zambia was mourning him because Zambians knew him as a hard worker, selfless leader, and above all, a practical humanist. It should be said that the cruel death has again robbed us of one of the most dedicated sons of Africa before he could even finish in providing you with the required advice and assistance in your task of national building, in which he was an undoubted confidante of the Tanzanian people, President Kaunda said.

Summit With Botha, Frontline States Urged

MB121512 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] President Kaunda has said time has come for a summit meeting with South African Prime Minister Pik Botha and all six leaders of the southern African frontline states to discuss the region. Dr Kaunda also declared his willingness to host such a summit, saying he would be quite happy to do so, because he has no doubt as to the value of such a meeting.

The president was speaking in an interview with the editor and publisher of the South African magazine *LEADERSHIP S.A.*, published in its current issue. He said such a meeting would enable Botha to know [words indistinct] of President Kaunda and those leaders he has met, but also that of President Quett Masire of Botswana, Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola. He said the impact of such a summit on Botha would be obviously more than if he met with one person at a time, and Dr Kaunda says he's quite certain the time for such a meeting has come.

Dr Kaunda said such a meeting will also cut across the problems of suspicions when discussing apartheid, adding that a meeting of this type would be very good, but warned that the principle behind it should be examined carefully. The president has also urged Mr Botha to meet leaders of the ANC like jailed Nelson Mandela and acting president Oliver Tambo, (?saying) while it is all very well to meet frontline states' leaders, this alone would

not solve the problem. He said people like Mandela, Tambo, Walter Sisulu, and others he has known as decent ordinary human beings who believe in [word indistinct] of man and the dignity of man regardless of color, religion, and political views.

While he sympathised with the South African society, he warned them not to allow the situation to explode, as it is something which is going to affect everyone in the region. He also said the key element in all this is the release of Nelson Mandela, because he cannot see Oliver Tambo meeting with Botha even if the prime minister was willing to meet him, as he has his followers who would lose confidence in him if he did this. Dr Kaunda said the only man who can meet white leaders now without losing face with his followers is Nelson Mandela, who has been in prison for over 20 years and is right there in South Africa.

Kaunda Notes Rescheduled Debt Payments Missed

MB121515 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 12 Apr 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, has disclosed that Zambia failed to meet some of the debt rescheduling conditions of the Paris Club last year and will have to go there again for fresh negotiations. Dr Kaunda said that, however, the country has embarked on a tough recovery program and that those who know Zambia well have realized that if she fails to honor some of her debts, it is because of the state of her economy and not a deliberate move.

President Kaunda said this when the visiting Japanese economic mission paid a courtesy call here at State House, where he later hosted a dinner for them last night. Dr Kaunda said most investors had rightly expressed some anxiety as to whatever would be allowed to remit returns on their investments, and assured them that when the economy has recovered Zambia will be able to honor her international debts. He pointed out that from the time of independence up to 1973, Zambia had a clean record in her international financial dealings and managed to pay all her debts.

He explained that from 1973, when the prices of oil first went up and copper prices began to nosedive, and copper [words indistinct] from the [words indistinct] increase, the nation has continued to be deviled by these problems. He said Zambia is, in spite of all these factors, trying things in an orderly manner, and this is why she appealled to the IMF to assist, adding that top Ministry of Finance officials were currently in Washington trying to negotiate an aid package.

Dr Kaunda said the recent 75 million kwacha World Bank loan to rehabilitate the mines was a vote of confidence in the measures the party and its governemnt has taken to resuscitate the economy. The president assured potential Japanese investors to come forward and invest in the country, saying their investments would be safe, as the measures taken are certain to minimize the situation. Leader of the delegation (Nasau Nakamori) expressed the hope that under Dr Kaunda's leadership most of the nation's problems will be solved and pledged to urge his government to assist the country as much as possible.

FRG TV Interviews Kaunda on South Africa

DW121403 Stuttgart ARD Television Network in German
1915 GMT 11 Apr 84

[Interview with President Kenneth Kaunda by correspondent Josef Dreckmann; date and place not given; in English with superimposed German translation —recorded]

[Text] [Dreckmann] Are you sure that South Africa's new policy will be successful?

[Kaunda] No, I am not sure. We will have to wait until Prime Minister Botha shows his hand.

[Dreckmann) The struggle against apartheid and for the liberation of the black people in South Africa has always been a major concern of the OAU. Do you see a danger that this organization might break apart as a result of the new political developments in southern Africa?

[Kaunda] As far as the treaty between Mozambique and South Africa is concerned, there are obviously some African countries that advocate views entirely different from mine. However, you see, Mozambique is an independent country. We Zambians publicly supported Mozambique in its rapprochement with South Africa because we simply believe that something must be done when a country faces the danger of collapsing. In the case of Mozambique, South Africa had applied its superior power against its neighbor by, among other things, supporting the rebel movement. Pretoria never made a secret of this support. Moreover, Mozambique was suffering from a terrible drought, just as all countries in southern Africa. The Mozambique people were no longer able to cope with their difficulties. Nature was against them, South Africa was against them, and the rebels in their own country trained by South Africa were against them. To stay true to ourselves, we had no choice but to support Mozambique in its efforts to find an arrangement with South Africa.

However, as far as the struggle against apartheid is concerned, there has been no change at all. Let me repeat: We support Mozambique in connection with its treaty with South Africa. This treaty was the right thing to do. Still, as far as apartheid is concerned, I tell you that unless South Africa changes this policy, I give this unhappy country another 3 years at best. Then a terrible explosion will occur from within, and I am afraid all of us here will be dragged into the disaster, not because we want to be, but because we are neighbors of South Africa.

ANC Asks Protection for Members in Swaziland

MB131155 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] The African National Congress has appealed to the international community to do everything possible to protect ANC members being expelled from Swaziland. An ANC statement issued in Lusaka said that the organization was reliably informed that Swaziland intended to expel 25 families immediately. The statement says the ANC views this latest move with grave concern, particularly since there are persistent rumors that one of these refugees may be handed over to South Africa. The

statement said all those facing deportation have proper refugee status and include children and retired people, some of whom have been in Swaziland for almost 20 years. A Swazi police spokesman said yesterday that 31 South African refugees had been arrested as part of what he calls a routine operation, which he said would continue until there were no ANC members left in Swaziland. The Swazi Government however, has refused to confirm reports that it has ordered all ANC members to leave its territory. Swaziland signed a secret nonaggression pact with South Africa in February 1982 and revealed the existence of the pact last month.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe, Kaunda To Commission Microwave Link

MB130809 Harare Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 13 Apr 84

[Text] The microwave link between Bulawayo and Livingstone, in Zambia, will be commissioned at the Victoria Falls today. The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, who arrived in Victoria Falls yesterday, will jointly commission the microwave link with the Zambian president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda.

Comrade Mugabe was met at the airport by the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, Army and police chiefs, and thousands of party supporters.

The 18-million-dollar project funded by two Scandinavian countries, Sweden and Norway, will open telephone, telex, and color television links between the two countries.

An extension of the microwave link from Livingstone to Francistown in Botswana, and from there to Bulawayo, will be completed and commissioned in June this year. When the International Gateway Exchange at Gweru is commissioned in June this year, Zimbabwe will be able to dial directly to other Southern African Development Coordination Conference countries.